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The RING

SINCE 1922

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A RETURN TO SANITY:
THE "NEW" RING RATINGS

SPINKS-COONEY:
The Fight That Refused to Die

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"Hits like a heavyweight."

—GAY TALESE

Here is the history, lore, and allure of boxing; the questions of whether it *is* a sport and whether it should be banned; boxing as seen in literature and film; its overall mystique and much, much more. It's a remarkable look at a fascinating subject by one of today's most popular and respected novelists.

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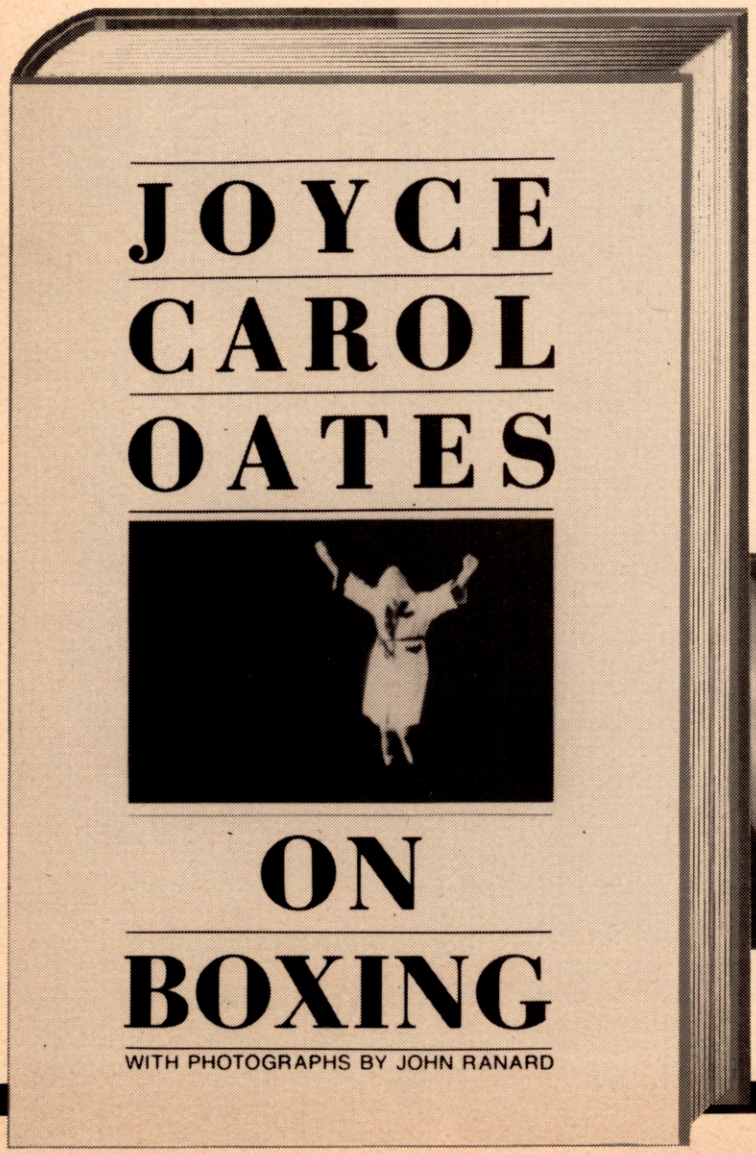
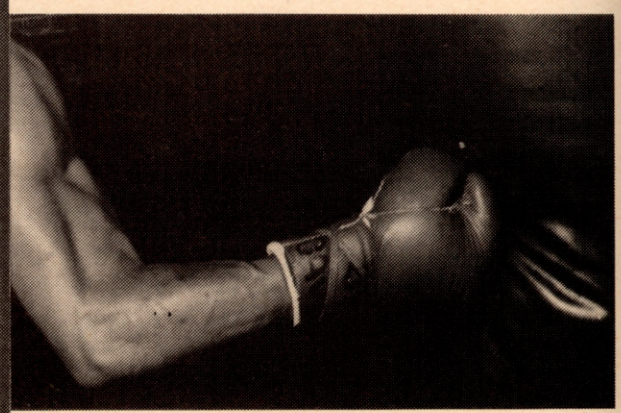
—EDWARD HOAGLAND



"A hymn to the dark gods of violence and a compassionate, informed celebration of the acolytes as well."

—RUSSELL BANKS



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The RING

The bible of boxing

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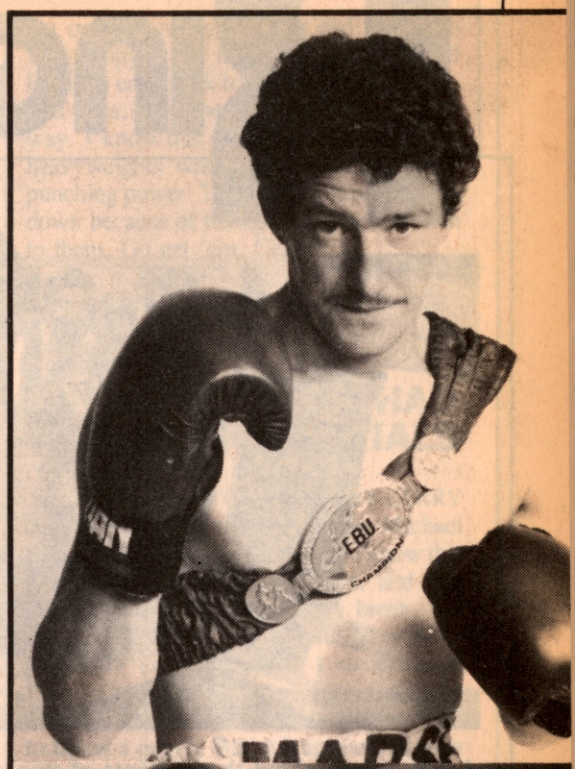

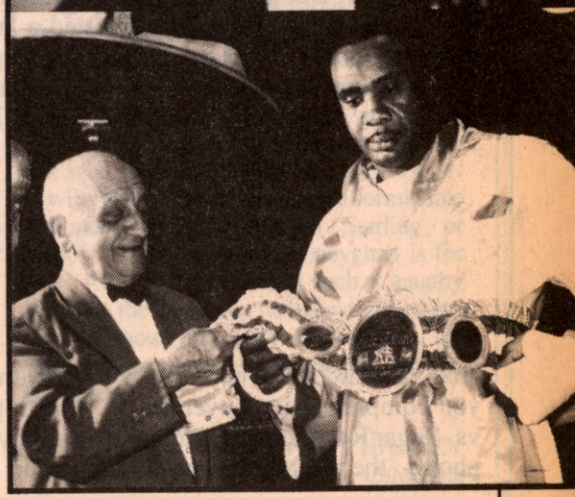

RingSide

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July, 1987 Vol LXVI, No. 5
"The Bible of Boxing"
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PHOTO BY MARC MORRISON

A few words about the contents of this month's issue:

The Ring believes that too much caution can often be the greatest risk of all. Therefore, we have decided to roll the dice and take a couple of calculated risks.

First and foremost, we are betting readers of *The Ring* will endorse our new ratings policy (see "A Return To Sanity" and "The Real Champions"). This effort to restore a modicum of credibility to boxing's rankings and world titles goes against the grain of the "more is better" philosophy currently espoused by the Alphabet Boys. But we strongly feel that it is in tune with the desires of practically all boxing fans. *The Ring* has challenged the status quo, but we need your support if we are to be successful.

Our second gamble of the month is not anywhere near as crucial or far reaching as the first, but is, nevertheless, a highly speculative venture: We are previewing the Michael Spinks-Gerry Cooney match.

Because of the numerous legal entanglements involved and Cooney's track record of pulling out of fights, there is a possibility the bout may be postponed or canceled. But after speaking with all the involved parties, and in lieu of the fact that Donald Trump has invested a large sum of money in the promotion, our gut feeling is that the fight will come off as scheduled.

It has been said that he who bravely dares must sometimes risk a fall. Boxers do it every time they step into the ring. Now it's our turn.

Nigel Collins

P.S.
You've heard the hype, now read about the fight. Next month, *The Ring* brings you comprehensive coverage of "The SuperFight," Marvelous Marvin Hagler vs. Sugar Ray Leonard, including blow-by-blow, in-depth analysis, color action photos, the aftermath, and all the inside gossip.

THE RING is a magazine which a man may take home with him. He may leave it on his library table safe in the knowledge that it does not contain one line of matter either in the text or the advertisements which would be offensive. The publisher of THE RING guards this reputation of his magazine jealously. It is entertaining and it is clean. The entire contents and photographs of this magazine are copyrighted and must not be used without permission.

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COME OUT WRITING

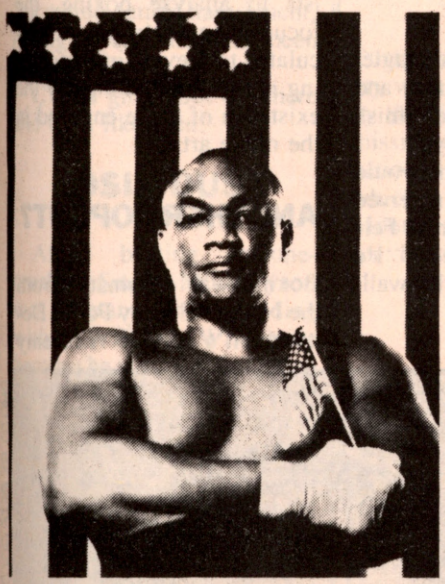


PHOTO BY MARC MORRISON

Reader Matt F. Jones is pleased that former heavyweight champion George Foreman is back in action. Read "Welcome Back" for details.

ANOTHER MODEST PROPOSAL

FRANCESCO DAMIANI'S KAYO WIN over Eddie Gregg for the WBC's "Junior Heavyweight" title got me thinking. If a championship has to be created for those fighters whose level of skill is such that they might never be given the chance to fight for a world title, what about all the others? Let's be fair. Why not a round robin tournament to determine the *worst* fighter in each division? The losers could advance to the finals with the loser of that fight being declared "Loser's Champion." Or how about "Junior Loser's Titles" for those fighters who are bad, but not *that* bad. Or how about championships for all fighters born in April or whose middle name start with Q? Or why not simply give every boxer a championship? That way *every* bout could be a title unification bout. Moreover, the sanctioning bodies could demand their cut from every bout held. Plus, they could constantly be stripping everyone for wearing brown shoelaces or whatever reason they deem valid. In the present climate this certainly seems to make sense. Meanwhile, I can hardly wait to find out who will win the "Junior Flyweight Junior Title."

R.R. TAYLOR
Tacoma, Washington

WHERE'S CHUVALO NOW THAT WE REALLY NEED HIM?

IF WILLIE DE WIT WAS TO BE THE future of professional boxing here in Canada . . . well, let me put it this way: I really miss George Chuvalo. Hang 'em up before you get hurt, de Wit.

BILL DONAVAN
St. Johns, Canada

WELCOME BACK

I WISH TO EXPRESS MY ADMIRATION for former heavyweight champion George Foreman. I just want to say that I am one of his biggest fans and that I am very happy to see him return to the ring. I hope his comeback trail leads to a title shot. If it does, I will be rooting for him all the way. I know that there are a lot of ranked heavyweights who can't stand up to his punching power. Though people put George down because of his age, I say don't listen to them. Go get 'em, George.

MATT F. JONES
Bel Air, Maryland

EVEN "DE PREEM" HAD BETTER CREDENTIALS

I AM CURIOUS TO KNOW WHY GERRY Cooney is getting a chance at Michael Spinks' heavyweight title. Now, I know this is boxing we are talking about, and that white fighters are given every break, but this surely brings the "sport" to a new, laughably disgusting low. I mean, even Primo Carnera had better credentials than Cooney, and "De Preem" barely knew how to throw a punch. But at least the mobsters who controlled Carnera made him fight on a regular basis. Even though "the people" still recognize Spinks as champion, they certainly shouldn't recognize Cooney as a challenger. He's only fought seven rounds in the last five years! It's so sad that boxing, such a beautiful, artistic sport, has to be run by such jerks. It deserves better.

STEPHEN GARFIELD
Montpelier, Vermont

JURY STILL OUT ON HONEYGHAN?

LLOYD HONEYGHAN'S RECENT blowout of Johnny Bumphus did nothing to dispel the questions that have lingered since his fortuitous win over Donald Curry. Against Bumphus, an opponent the weakness of whose chin is rivalled only by his punch, Honeyghan admittedly exhibited a brand of freewheeling mayhem not seen since the heyday of Aaron Pryor. It will require, however, a more formidable opponent, perhaps Marlon Starling or Simon Brown, to prove Honeyghan is for real. After having endured such a lengthy drought, the Brits may well have something to crow about, ultimately. But for now, the jury on Honeyghan is quite understandably still out.

STEVEN M. CHANLEY
San Lorenzo, California

Round One

Phill Marder

SOME THINGS NEVER CHANGE

Seven former world middleweight champions gathered at Gallagher's in New York City to discuss the then-upcoming fight between **Sugar Ray Leonard** and **Marvin Hagler.**

Just two, **Carmen Basilio** and **Joey Giardello** picked Leonard. **Jake LaMotta, Vito Antuofermo, Paul Pender, Emile Griffith** and **Rocky Graziano** went for Hagler.

Each was asked how he would combat Leonard and Hagler. On fighting Leonard, Graziano said, "I'd knock him through the wall. I would kill him. I ain't kidding." On fighting Hagler, Graziano commented, "I would be held for murder. I think I'd kill him."

You'll notice the lack of confidence in Graziano's prediction of a match with Hagler. Against Leonard, Graziano predicted, "I would kill him." Against Hagler, the Rock merely stated, "I think I would kill him."

Hagler wasn't available to comment on what he would have done to Graziano. But the Marvelous one left no doubt about what he intended to do to Leonard.

"I like those pretty boys," said Hagler. "I like to smash their face. I'm going to rip his whole face off if I have to."

Those middleweights certainly have a way with words, don't they?

ROBINSON TRIBUTE OFF

One great middleweight missing from the above collection was **Sugar Ray Robinson,** who is suffering from Alzheimer's disease. The New York Urban Coalition wanted to honor Robinson prior to the closed-circuit showing of Hagler-Leonard at the Apollo Theater, but the former champion and his wife, Millie, rejected the tribute.

Jose Ferrer, vice-president of the Community Outreach Department of the Coalition, received a letter from Robinson, which read in part, "I greatly appreciate being chosen as one you wish to honor, but I strongly feel that April 6th belongs to Marvin Hagler and Sugar Ray Leonard, and I in no way wish to diminish their moment of glory."

When asked what he would have done if he had received a similiar invitation from Ferrer, Graziano replied, "I'd knock him through the wall. I'd kill him."

Just kidding.

IS IT SAFE?

The WBA and WBC working together? Sounds farfetched, but WBA president **Gilberto Mendoza** and WBC head honcho **Jose Sulaiman** are formulating plans to schedule a medical symposium in Mexico City.

Mendoza and Sulaiman are assembling a panel of distinguished neurosurgeons, psychologists, opthalmologists and sports medicine specialists to analyze boxing, the focus being on "measures calculated to prevent incapacitating injuries and to dignify the existence of those engaged in the noble art."

ANOTHER COPOUT?

Boxing was eliminated from the Nassau County Police Department's police academy

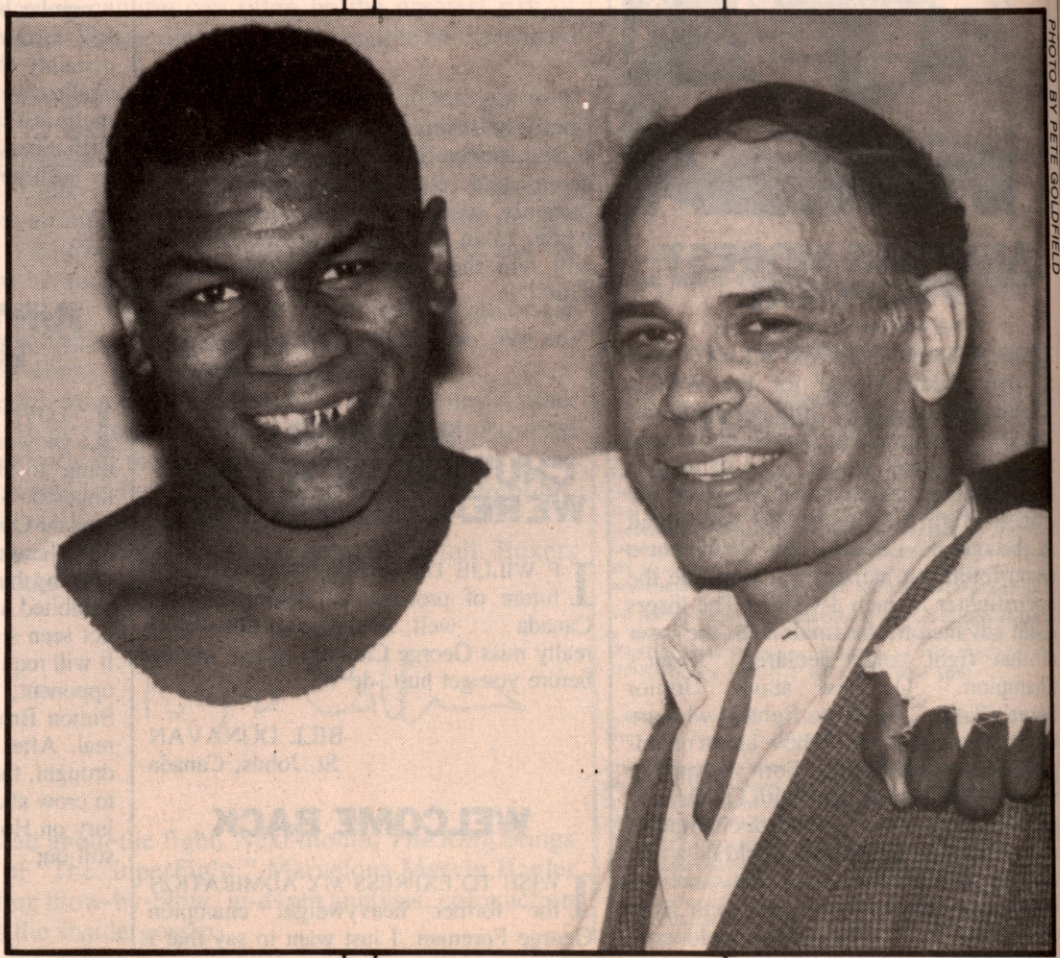


PHOTO BY PETE GOLDFIELD

The price of fame. Mike Tyson and co-manager Jim Jacobs are all smiles here, but both were worried by the death threat Mike received shortly before outpointing Bonecrusher Smith for the WBA heavyweight title in Las Vegas.

curriculum when women recruits claimed its inclusion constituted sexual harassment which prompted them to resign.

According to academy officials, one female recruit suffered a broken nose, another an overextended shoulder. One recruit claimed she suffered a black eye boxing with a man, while another said she was knocked out—a claim officials denied.

Deputy Chief Robert P. Yaccarino denied harassment, noting several men had been injured as well.

C'mon girls. Get out there and fight like men!

ROSIN DUST

After beating "Bonecrusher" Smith, **Mike Tyson** was reluctant to pose standing with his WBC and WBA belts because he was afraid of being shot. According to Tyson's trainer, **Kevin Rooney,** Tyson had received a death threat. Smith was absolved completely, having proven himself no threat, whatsoever . . . **Aaron Pryor,** free on $50,000 bond while awaiting a June trial for sexual battery and assault, claims he is drug-free and ready to resume boxing . . . The 31-year-old Pryor won't be doing any boxing in Hackney, a rundown section of East London. The home of two recent world titleholders, junior middleweight **Maurice Hope** and light heavyweight **Dennis Andries,** has banned professional boxing, the first time the sport has been outlawed anywhere in Britain. Guess they watched Andries against Hearns . . . Promoter **Butch Lewis** signed former lightweight titleholder **Livingstone Bramble,** who has changed his name to Ras-Ialuja Bramble . . . Former heavyweight title holder **Ernie Terrell** recently ran for alderman in the 34th ward of Chicago, finishing second in a field of 10 . . . **Donald Curry** and **Tony Montgomery** were fined $2,500 a piece by the Nevada Athletic Commission after their foul-filled, nationally televised bout which Curry won when Montgomery was disqualified for butting. Who fines the Nevada Commission when it fouls up, which is quite often? . . . **Jean-Claude Vinci,** a 24-year-old Frenchman, lapsed into a coma and died after losing a six-round decision to countryman Lionel Jean . . . **Lou Duva** filed a protest with the IBF after his fighter, **Johnny Bumphus,** was knocked out by welterweight champ **Lloyd Honeyghan.** Bumphus was so interested, he retired . . . Fight announcer **Don Dunphy** has completed his autobiography entitled "Don Dunphy At Ringside." Dunphy broadcast more than 2,000 fights, including approximately 50 heavyweight title bouts.

Round One

Don Dunphy, the dean of TV boxing commentators, has written an autobiography. Read "Rosin Dust" for details.

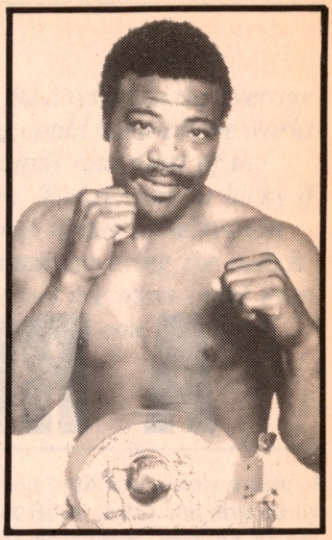


PHOTO BY PETE GOLDFIELD

Aaron Pryor claims he is now drug-free and ready to resume his career.

PUNCH LINES

The late **John Belushi** trained at the Gramercy Gym in New York five years ago. On his first visit, Belushi was steered to **Paddy Flood,** who trained **Mustafa Hamsho** before his untimely death a couple of years bacl.

"So, you're the great Paddy Flood," said Belushi. "How many bums you got in this gym?"

Flood, Sizing up the 5-7, 220-pound actor/comedian, replied without hesitation, "One. You."

The Knicks' **Patrick Ewing** said he will accept a fight with Mike Tyson.

"Give me $30 million," said Ewing. "The first punch he throws, I'm going to drop."

If Tyson missed?

Iam still going down," said Ewing. "I'm tough, but I ain't crazy." □

A RETURN TO SANITY

The Ring Restores Ratings To Eight Traditional Weight Classes

by Nigel Collins

THE TIME HAS COME FOR *THE RING* TO take a drastic step in an effort to bring a modicum of stability to boxing's increasingly chaotic situation. After much deliberation, we have decided to limit *The Ring's* International Ratings to the eight traditional weight divisions—heavyweight, light heavyweight, middleweight, welterweight, lightweight, featherweight, bantamweight and flyweight.

This action comes at a time when professional boxing is rapidly sinking deeper and deeper into a morass of confusion. According to the World Boxing Council, the World Boxing Association and the International Boxing Federation, there are currently 40 world champions, plus four vacancies. (Naturally, these figures are subject to change at a moment's notice). As patently ridiculous as this is, matters are even more preposterous if you also count the WBC's newly created "Junior Championships" and the champions recognized by maverick governing bodies such as the World Athletic Association and the Universal Boxing Association.

The integrity of the junior classes has always been limited at best. Recognition was frequently motivated more by the prospect of individual gain than by the betterment of boxing.

The problem is made even more complicated by these various organizations' penchant for stripping so-called champions of so-called titles. The overall result has been devastating to boxing's integrity. Phony titleholders abound, while legitimate champions are often lost in the shuffle.

The rankings also have been dealt a near-fatal blow as more and more mediocre boxers find their way onto the numerous lists of supposed "challengers." The WBC currently ranks 30 boxers in 15 different weight classifications. The quality of the fighters appearing in these ratings has become so diluted, the term "contender" signifies practically nothing other than the fact that the guy has two arms, two legs and maybe a boxing license.

Gone are the days when the average sports fans could name all the world champions and most of the contenders. Today, you're lucky if the sports writer or television commentator covering the match can figure out the mess—and even luckier if they can explain it.

The vast majority of the mail received by ***The Ring*** *indicates the boxing public is sick of the current situation and angered by the seemingly endless proliferation of meaningless champions and contenders.*

Enough is enough! Boxing has suffered far too long from the ills inflicted by these gangs of self-serving parasites who have become collectively known as the "Alphabet Boys." The vast majority of the mail received by *The Ring* indicates the boxing public is sick of the current situation and angered by the seemingly endless proliferation of meaningless champions and contenders. Fans have called upon *The Ring* to make a stand, to set an example, to lead instead of follow.

The precedent for such leadership is rooted deep in the history of *The Ring*. It was our founder, Nat Fleischer, inspired by the late Walter Camp's custom of designating the outstanding football players of the year as All-Americans, who created the idea of a boxing honor roll similar to the gridiron ratings.

The first boxing ratings appeared in the February 1925 issue of *The Ring* and included such boxing immortals as Jack Dempsey, Benny Leonard, Mickey Walter, Harry Greb, Gene Tunney and Pancho Villa—all of whom were active at the time. Oddly enough, these first ratings were selected, not by Fleischer or *The Ring's* editorial staff, but by Tex Rickard, the leading promoter of the day.

Rickard continued to make the choices for a number of years, but after his death in 1929, Jack Dempsey took over the chore for a short spell. Next came Tom McArdle, the matchmaker for Madison Square Garden, who handled the ratings until 1933 when Fleischer decided on a staff compilation based on the census of *The Ring's* small army of correspondents around the globe. This method was used until the May 1980 issue when the "panel/ballot" system was instituted.

Almost from inception, *The Ring* ratings included only the eight traditional divisions. Then, starting with the September 1962 issue, the junior lightweight and junior welterweight divisions were included. Though Fleischer apparently gave his blessing to the additions, it was Al Buck of the *New York Post* who wrote the article explaining why *The Ring* was taking the step: "Publisher Fleischer's decision to rate the two junior classes is based on the increased activity among the 130- and 140-pounders. The competition is globular in scope and has aroused the fans' interest, both at home and in foreign lands."

While we have undying respect for our founder, it is highly unlikely Fleischer had even the foggiest notion of the abuses that were to follow over the coming years. Eventually, *The Ring* also recognized the cruiserweight, junior middleweight and junior featherweight divisions. Meanwhile, various members of the Alphabet Boys added the super middleweight, junior bantamweight, junior flyweight and mini flyweight categories. Though it is impossible to know what Fleischer would have to say about all this if he were alive today, he'd probably be appalled at the current situation and endorse our efforts to bring about constructive change.

The integrity of the junior classes has always been limited at best. Recognition was frequently motivated more by the prospect of individual gain than by the betterment of boxing. For example, the junior welterweight division lay dormant from 1946, when Tippy Larkin defended the title with a 12-round decision over Willie Joyce, until 1959 when manager Jack Kearns resurrected it for Michigan southpaw Kenny Lane, who had already failed in a bid to lift the lightweight title from Joe Brown. Kearns was successful in talking MSG and the New York State Athletic Commission into recognizing a match between Lane and Carlos Ortiz for the vacant 140-pound title. However, Lane was not nearly as successful in the ring. Ortiz stopped him in the second round and eventually went on to greater glory by winning the lightweight title.

Likewise, the junior lightweight class was started in 1921 to give Johnny Dundee a chance to win a title. Dundee had battled to a 20-round draw with featherweight champion Johnny Kilbane in 1913, but had difficulty making 126 pounds. With the great Benny Leonard reigning as lightweight champion, Dundee's management conveniently created a new division just for him.

The history of the other "bastard divisions" is even flimsier than that of the junior light and junior welter classes and really calls for little explanation. In most instances, their birth was simply a case of the Alphabet Boys, aided and abetted by opportunistic promoters, seeking to expand both their power and bank accounts.

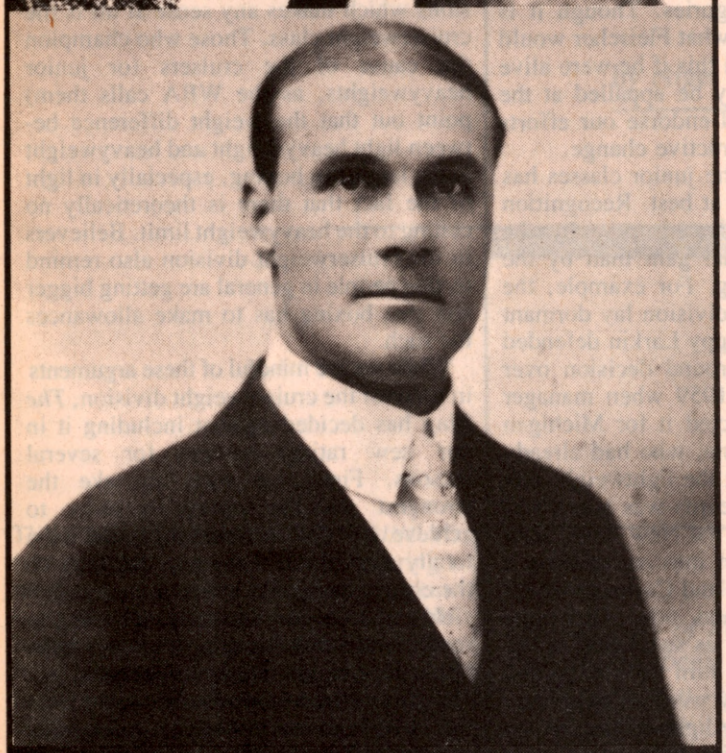
Gone are the days when the average sports fans could name all the world champions and most of the contenders. Today, you're lucky if the sports writer or television commentator covering the match can figure out the mess—and even luckier if they can explain it.

The lone entry among the newer divisions which makes any sense at all is the cruiserweight class. Those who champion the cause of the cruisers (or junior heavyweights, as the WBA calls them) point out that the weight difference between light heavyweight and heavyweight is the largest in boxing, especially in light of the fact that there is theoretically no ceiling to the heavyweight limit. Believers in the cruiserweight division also remind us that people in general are getting bigger and that boxing has to make allowances for such.

While we are mindful of these arguments in favor of the cruiserweight division, *The Ring* has decided against including it in our new ratings system for several reasons. First, we want to take the strongest possible stance in order to achieve our goal of bringing order to a totally convoluted situation. Sticking to the classic categories seems the most sensible way to begin. Secondly, it should be remembered that there have always been big heavyweights. Dempsey weighed just 187 when he won the championship from the 245-pound Jess Willard. As with most of the best light heavyweights in the past, the cream of the cruiserweight crop will earn its best paydays attempting to win the heavyweight title, anyway.

The Ring's new rating policy doesn't mean we are taking an ostrich-like view of the boxing world. As a service to our readers, we will continue to print numerous "other ratings" and also continue to cover professional boxing in the most comprehensive manner possible. Title bouts involving titleholders not recognized by *The Ring* will still receive prominent attention based on the individual

For a short period of time, even former heavyweight champ Jack Dempsey got in on the ratings game.



Oddly enough, THE RING'S first ratings were compiled by promoter Tex Rickard.

Nat Fleischer, founder of THE RING, originated the concept of ranking fighters with the February 1925 issue of the magazine.

merits of the match. Our aim is not to defame fights or fighters, but to cast them in a more realistic light, and help differentiate between the real and the artificial.

Though we certainly don't expect the Alphabet Boys to instantly disband the moment this article is published, *The Ring* does hope television executives pay heed to our call for temperance. For it is television, in its eagerness to sell boxing programing to prospective sponsors, which creates a climate conducive to the prostitution of boxing's time-honored tradition of champions and challengers. Sponsors want "title" fights, so promoters, working hand-in-hand with the Alphabet Boys, gladly provide the marketplace with the commodity most in demand—championship matches. It doesn't matter whether or not these "title fights" are for legitimate championships, just as long as some quasi-official group says they are.

Things are so out of hand, by the time the progressive Home Box Office cable network tried to unify the heavyweight title, the monster TV had helped create had taken on a life of its own and wasn't about to relinquish power without a struggle. As we go to press, it is still highly problematical whether or not HBO will yet obtain its noble goal of unifying the heavyweight world championship.

Nevertheless, *The Ring* doesn't wish to bite the hand that feeds boxing. Television is extremely important to the financial well-being of the sport. We just want television to respect both boxing tradition and the intelligence of the viewing public. A good match will always stimulate interest and draw an audience. Fraudulent title bouts are not necessary, and in the long run do a great disservice to boxing.

The Ring's new ratings will list only 10 challengers in each of the eight weight classifications, incorporating the best fighters in the junior divisions into the most appropriate weight class. For example, you will now find WBA junior heavyweight champion Evander Holyfield where he belongs—among the top 10 heavyweights in the world. Limiting ourselves to 10 contenders per division will be a victory for quality over quantity. The 80 boxers ranked each month by *The Ring* will be the best 80 fighters active today.

We realize some will not be happy with this new initiative. But overall, we are confident that both the boxing community and the millions of boxing fans around the world will support us.

The Ring is taking a bold step back into the past in order to secure the future of boxing. □

THE BIG FIGHTS INC.

9 East 40th Street, New York, N. Y. 10016; 212-LE 2-1717

April 6, 1987

Nigel Collins
Editor
The Ring Magazine
130 West 37th Street
New York, NY 10018

Dear Nigel,

I was fascinated with our discussion last week regarding the enormous amount of World Boxing Champions we now have in 1987. When you compare the present to the 8 divisions, (8 Champions), that were so clearly defined, when I was a young man, you quickly realize the great importance and meaning a world title fight had in the 1940's.

There is no question that Professional Boxing is infinitely better served when everyone in the Sport World knows who the World Champions are. Of course this was the case when I was in my twenties and there was a simple count of 8 from Flyweight to Heavyweight. It was certainly no big deal to know the names of those 8 certified world champions.

The enormity of the achievement, winning a world boxing title, is unquestionably diluted when you have 4 times as many champions. As close as I am to the sport, on a day to day basis, I find it impossible to keep track of the vast and varied world champions throughout the world. If it is difficult for me, I can only presume that its the same for most fight fans in general, and quite impossible for the sporting public in particular.

It would be in the very best interest of the sport if many of the junior titles were eliminated. While I realize that would certainly cut down the amount of money made by both fighters, and promoters, so many of the junior titles are relatively unimportant and tend to water down such historic divisions as Feather, Light, Welter, Middle, Light-Heavy and Heavy.

While I recognize there are very real pros and cons to this subject, I certainly believe that far fewer world championships would be in the best interests of boxing.

Warmest regards,
THE BIG FIGHTS, INC.

James L. Jacobs

Jim Jacobs is one of the world's leading historians on boxing. The above letter typifies reaction to THE RING'S revised ratings.

THE REAL CHAMPIONS

Who Are Boxing's True Champions? . . . And Why

by Nigel Collins

CHAMPIONS, CHAMPIONS EVERYwhere. But how many of them are worthy of the name?

In this era of divided championships and multiple titleholders, the very concept of a world boxing champion has been reduced to the farcical level of professional wrestling. With the number of so-called champions growing larger with each passing day, the entire top-heavy structure of boxing threatens to topple under the weight of its own greed and ineptitude.

Therefore, in conjunction with *The Ring*'s new ratings policy, we are also redefining who today's genuine champions are, and why *The Ring* recognizes them as such.

In order to fully understand why we recognize some championship claims over others, it is necessary to explain the principles which guide *The Ring* in determining who is, and who is not, a true champion. *The Ring* steadfastly believes titles are won and lost in the ring and that direct lineage to the former champion is by far the most important factor in ascertaining who is the rightful holder of any world title.

However, as desirable as a direct link with preceding champions is, it is not always possible in the often helter-skelter world of boxing. Sometimes, even though the chain of champions is broken, a fighter, through circumstances and popular opinion, will still be regarded as the legitimate champion. Dick Tiger's reign as middleweight champion is a good example of this phenomenon.

Although Tiger beat Gene Fullmer for the NBA (later WBA) middleweight title in October of 1962, Paul Pender was the legitimate champion because he had twice beaten Sugar Ray Robinson. The NBA, setting an early precedent for later transgressions, had stripped Robinson for inactivity. Nevertheless, when Pender retired in May of '63, Tiger gained universal recognition three months later by stopping Fullmer in their third fight.

The passing on of boxing laurels is not always a smooth process. Many situations are even more complicated than the Tiger case. In instances where there is no clear-cut lineage, the most important thing is to guard the integrity of the title. The arbitrary awarding of world championships, regardless of the fighter in question's credentials, can frequently lead to trouble. In the long run, it is usually better to have a vacant title than to install a "paper champion" simply because it is convenient to do so.

Of course, boxing's governing bodies react immediately to fill vacancies for one reason—money. There can be no sanctioning fees earned when a title is vacant. On the other hand, *The Ring* is more concerned with the purity of the title than monetary gain.

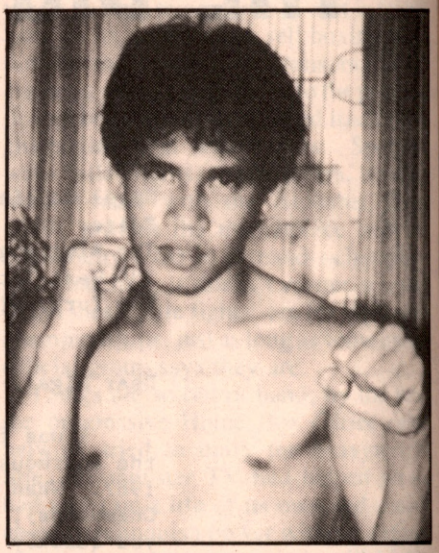
As *The Ring* is initiating its revamped ratings policy with this issue, it is paramount that we make it perfectly clear who we recognize as world champions, and why. Here, division-by-division, are boxing's real world champions:

HEAVYWEIGHT: MICHAEL SPINKS

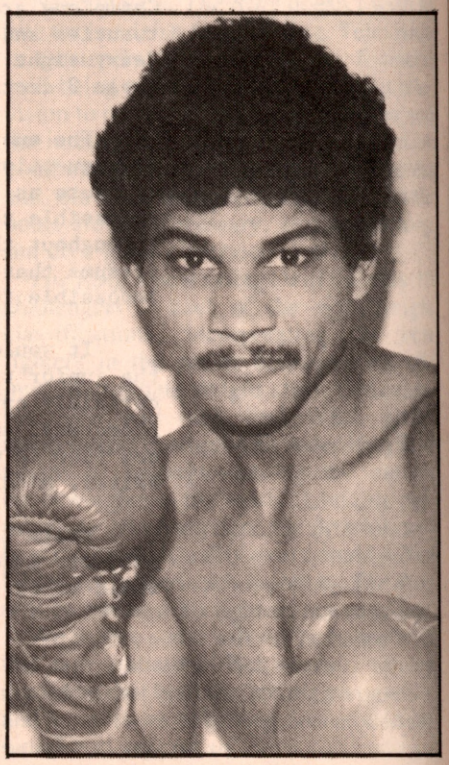
The heavyweight title is the easiest to trace back to its origins, and Spinks has an undeniable and clear-cut claim to the championship. Larry Holmes, despite switching allegiances from the WBC to the IBF, was the undefeated heavyweight champion of the world when Spinks outpointed him September 21, 1985.

The fact that Mike Tyson has unified the WBA and WBC versions of the title has no bearing on the matter. Both titles were specious to begin with. Tyson may very well be the best heavyweight in the world, but that doesn't make him the legitimate world champion . . . yet.

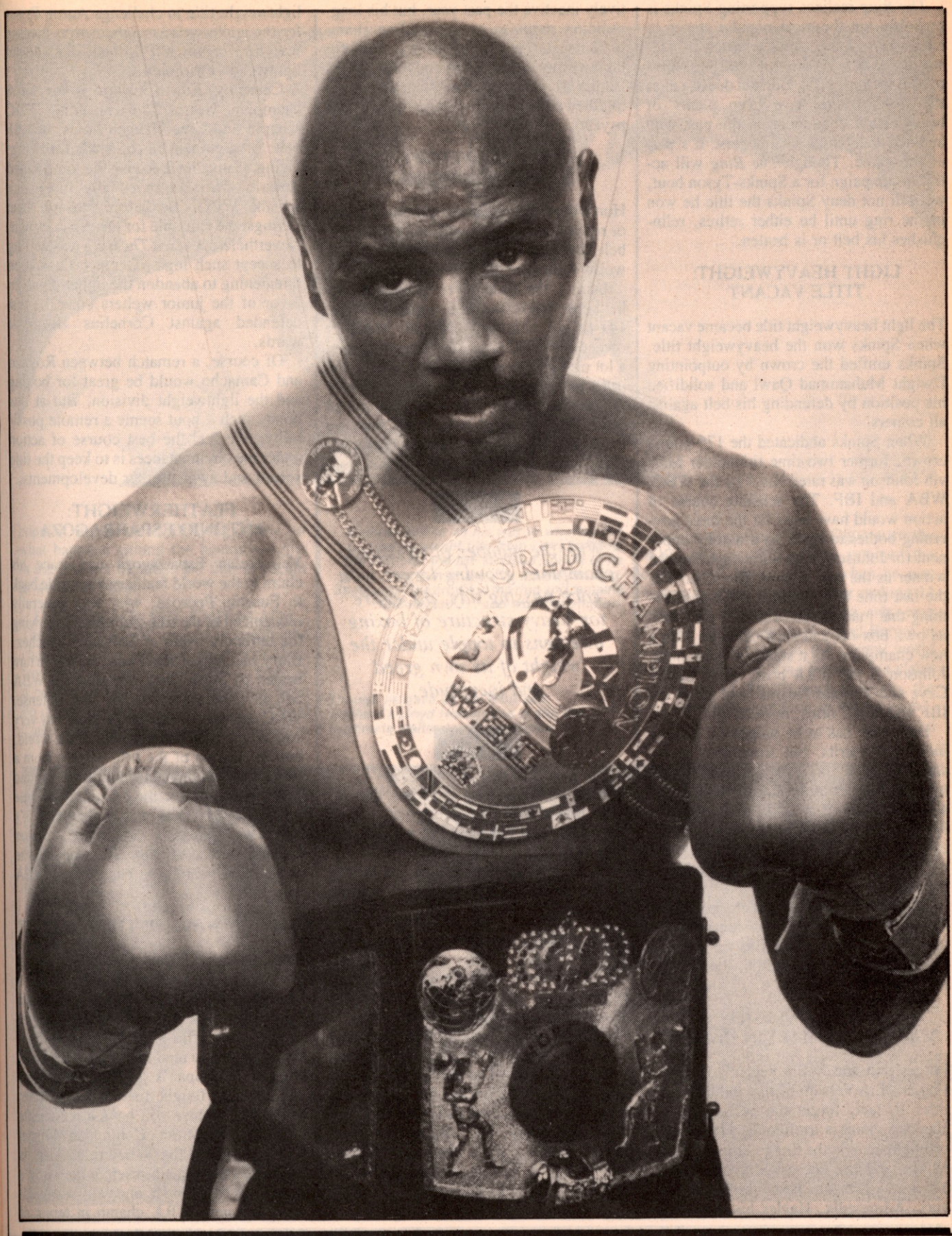
Anybody who thinks Marvelous Marvin Hagler is anything less than the world middleweight champion should have their head examined.



Thailand's Sot Chitalada's claim to the flyweight title can be traced back to Miguel Canto, the last dominant champion in the 112-pound division.



World featherweight champion Antonio Esparragoza.


WORLD CHAMPION

The Ring realizes supporting Spinks is probably not the most popular stance to take on this issue, and, I hasten to add, we are also very disappointed he seems to be ducking Tyson. But that doesn't alter the facts. There have been plenty of heavyweight champions in the past who avoided dangerous challengers. It's part of the game. Though *The Ring* will actively campaign for a Spinks-Tyson bout, we will not deny Spinks the title he won in the ring until he either retires, relinquishes his belt or is beaten.

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT: TITLE VACANT

The light heavyweight title became vacant when Spinks won the heavyweight title. Spinks unified the crown by outpointing Dwight Muhammad Qawi and solidified his position by defending his belt against all comers.

When Spinks abdicated the 175-pound crown, former two-time titleholder Marvin Johnson was rated No. 1 by the WBC, WBA and IBF. The sensible course of action would have been for the three governing bodies to agree on a worthy opponent for Johnson, with all recognizing the winner as the new champ. But when was the last time the Alphabet Boys did anything that made sense? Instead, each held its own box-off and each came up with a new champion. As it stands at press time, Johnson is the WBA boss, while Bobby Czyz and Thomas Hearns hold down the IBF and WBC titles, respectively.

Each case has to be judged on its own individual merits, but sometimes in instances such as the current light heavyweight situation, the picture is made a little clearer if rival titleholders have fought each other at some point in their careers. However, neither Johnson, Czyz nor Hearns have ever faced each other in the ring.

If two of the three partial champs meet, *The Ring* will give serious consideration to recognizing the winner as the genuine champion. In the meantime, the title remains vacant.

MIDDLEWEIGHT: MARVELOUS MARVIN HAGLER

Forget that the WBA recently stripped Hagler of its version of the middleweight title. In fact, forget the WBA, period. Hagler's claim is irrefutable. He won the championship in the ring by stopping Alan Minter and has successfully defended it 12 times against the best possible challengers. Admittedly, Hagler has been relatively inactive the past year, but his long-standing status as an outstanding champion negates any possible argument for taking away the title. Anybody who thinks Hagler is anything less than the world middleweight champion should consider psychoanalysis.

WELTERWEIGHT: LLOYD HONEYGHAN

Honeyghan didn't do himself much good, or show much class, by trashing his WBA belt, but that doesn't mean he's not the world welterweight champion.

During the time when Donald Curry held the WBA and IBF versions of the 147-pound title and Milton McCrory owned the WBC title, *The Ring* withstood a lot of pressure to recognize Curry as the true champion because he was obviously the better fighter. The title split when Sugar Ray Leonard gave it up, and we felt it would be unfair to arbitrarily recognize Curry when his claim had no more validity than McCrory's. When they finally fought in a unification match, both the welters and *The Ring* had a true champion once again.

With the number of so-called champions growing larger with each passing day, the entire top-heavy structure of boxing threatens to topple under the weight of its own greed and ineptitude.

As Honeyghan beat Curry, he is now the legitimate champion. What could be simpler?

LIGHTWEIGHT: TITLE VACANT

The lightweight situation is a real mess and has been since Roberto Duran relinquished the title to fight as a welterweight. Though Alexis Arguello was generally recognized as the titleholder with the most valid claim since Duran, his acceptance was not based on lineage. Arguello successfully defended his WBC belt against Ray Mancini in 1981, and when "Boom Boom" won the WBA version the following year, it gave increased credibility to Arguello's stature as champion.

However, when Arguello gave up the lightweight title to challenge Aaron Pryor for the junior welterweight crown, boxing was once again left without a clear-cut lightweight champion.

Currently, Edwin Rosario is the WBA champion, Hector Camacho is the WBC kingpin and Greg Haugen holds the IBF belt. An argument can be made for recognizing Camacho because he outpointed Rosario, albeit controversially, in a match for the WBC title before Rosario beat Livingstone Bramble for the WBA crown. Nevertheless, even if *The Ring* was willing to accept such logic, Camacho has been threatening to abandon the lightweights in favor of the junior welters since he last defended against Cornelius Boza-Edwards.

Of course, a rematch between Rosario and Camacho would be great for boxing and the lightweight division. But at this point, such a bout seems a remote possibility. We feel the best course of action under the circumstances is to keep the title vacant and await further developments.

FEATHERWEIGHT: ANTONIO ESPARRAGOZA

Venezuelan Esparragoza can trace his claim to the world featherweight title back to Eusebio Pedroza, who was generally recognized as the true champion following the untimely death of Salvador Sanchez. Barry McGuigan beat Pedroza, was in turn beaten by Steve Cruz, who lost the WBA belt to Esparragoza in his first defense. WBC champion Azumah Nelson may very well be the best 126-pounder in the world, but his version of the title derives from a 1982 match between Juan LaPorte and Mario Miranda for the vacant WBC title that followed Sanchez's death. Pedroza's claim was generally considered stronger because he had already defeated LaPorte earlier that year in defense of the WBA title.

BANTAMWEIGHT: TITLE VACANT

Until he relinquished the WBA title in mid-March, Bernardo Pinango owned a championship with direct lineage back to Eder Jofre, who united the bantamweight title in 1961 after a period of confusion. By the time you read this, Panama's Azael Moran and Japan's Takuya Muguruma should have fought for the vacant title. While the winner will have a reasonable claim to the title, Colombian Miguel "Happy" Lora, the WBA titleholder, is rapidly establishing himself as the world's premier 118-pounder and will easily eclipse the new WBA champ in terms of

popular acceptance. But regardless of what happens among the bantamweights in the coming months, the title is vacant as we go to press.

FLYWEIGHT: SOT CHITALADA

The flyweights have not had an undisputed champion since Venice Borkorsor of Thailand gave up the title in 1973 to fight as a bantamweight. Though there has been no direct lineage since, Mexico's Miguel Canto won recognition as world champion when he decisioned Shoji Oguma for the WBC title in 1975. Canto retained the crown until March of '78 when he was beaten by Chan-Hee Lee after making 14 successful defenses. Chitalada, who won the title by outpointing Gabriel Bernal in 1984, is recognized as the current world champion by *The Ring* because his claim can be traced directly back to Canto, the last dominant champion in the division. □

Michael Spinks on his way to winning the heavyweight title from Larry Holmes. The fact that the IBF stripped Spinks of its version of the title means nothing. Spinks won the crown in the ring and remains undefeated . . . and world champion.

Though he gave up his WBA belt, England's Lloyd Honeyghan is still the legitimate welterweight champion.

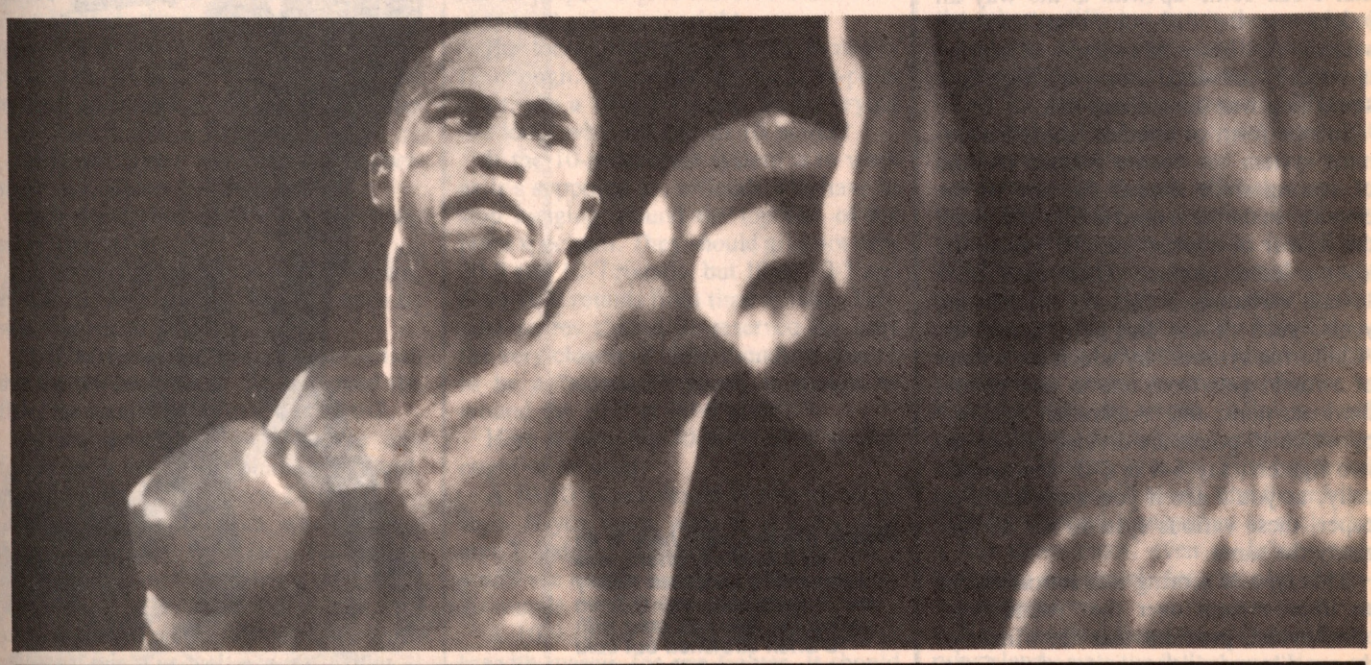


PHOTO BY WILL HART

Whatever Happend

SOMEBODY ONCE SAID THAT ARMY and navy procedures were systems designed by geniuses for execution by idiots. That is to say, the procedures look stupid, but they work, and even a complete fool can't mess them up too badly. I wish I could say the same for the rules of boxing.

The rules of boxing as we know them today (i.e. the Marquess of Queensberry rules, slightly modified) work pretty well, theoretically. If the two fighters fight reasonably fairly, and if the referee knows all the rules and is in control of the action at all times, nothing too horrible can happen. And the two fighters, at least, usually try to win within the rules. At all events, they hardly ever break the rules in such a way as to let things get completely out of hand. The big problem with boxing today is that very few of the officials seem to know the rules as well as the fighters do.

Even if the officials do know the rules, they have a tendency to simply ignore those that they don't care for, or to be very squeamish about enforcing them, or to wilfully misinterpret them in such a way that the original spirit of the rules is completely altered.

A knockdown should still carry great weight in the scoring of a round, but it must be kept in mind that no knockdown is like another.

About the most blatant example of this that I can come up with is the way all judges use the "10-point-must" scoring system. And since this system of scoring is virtually universal today, it's high time something was done about that.

In one form or another, the 10-point-must system has been a popular method of scoring since around the turn of the century. In the form used today, of course, the winner of a round gets 10 points, the loser a lesser number. There have been several variations of this system over the years, such as the five-point must; the "California system," by which the winner of a round gets from one to five points, the loser none; the "Australian system," by which 10 points are divided among the two fighters, say 6-4 or 7-3. Mathematically, as you'll see if you work it out on paper, these various systems are all precisely the same.

This type of scoring was introduced as an improvement over the "rounds system," which provides that the winner of the most rounds is the winner of the fight. The rounds system gives equal weight to every round in the bout; the 10-point-must (or one of the other systems listed above) gives more weight to a round won decisively than to a round won by a hair.

In theory, that sounds great. Under the 10-point-must system, it's very hard for a guy to win eight of 15 rounds by tiny margins, and still win the fight even though he was on the floor six or seven times in the rounds he lost.

In practice, though, the 10-point-must system is abused and misapplied, to the great detriment of boxing.

My major objection to the 10-point-must system is that it leads to lazy scoring. We've all seen fights scored on a rounds basis: the officials turn in cards of, say, 9-6, 10-4-1 and 11-4. They take the time to decide who won the round; if it was a close round, they still manage to pick a winner. It's rare indeed to see two rounds scored "even" when the judge is using the rounds system.

And you all know what judges' scorecards look like when they're using the 10-point-must system: 148-147, 146-146, and 147-146. Seven, eight, maybe 10 even rounds out of 15. Not that these rounds are actually even, of course; it's just that these officials are too lazy to pick a winner if the round is at all close. And they can get away with it because not all fans are quick enough to subtract from 150, figure out how many even rounds the judge called, and lynch the sonofabitch before he grabs his money and goes home.

Note also that in almost all cases, you can look at an official's 10-point-must score and figure out how he scored the fight on a rounds basis. Since practically every round is scored 10-9 or 10-10, if the referee turns in a score of, say, 148-143, it means he's scored the fight 7-2, with six rounds even. If a fighter scored a knockdown in one of those rounds, of

Stanley Ketchel, seen here in an early publicity photo, was robbed of a knockout victory over Philadelphia Jack O'Brien when the final bell rang with O'Brien stretched out cold on the canvas.

d To The Rules?

By Joseph D'O'Brian

Maybe Jersey Joe Walcott (left) would have got the decision in his controversial first bout with Joe Louis if a different scoring system had been used. As it was, Walcott came out on the wrong end of a split decision.

course, the judge will have given him a 10-8 round, so all you have to do is make that mathematical adjustment, and you'll still have the score by rounds.

As I noted, the rules for the 10-point-must system state that the winner of the round gets 10 points; the loser a lesser number. In practice, the unwritten rules of the system are as follows:

(a) If no fighter wins the round *decisively*, it's scored 10-10.

(b) If one fighter wins the round decisively, it's 10-9.

(c) If one fighter scores a knockdown, even if he loses the rest of the round, he wins that round 10-8.

(d) If one fighter so dominates the action that the referee should have stopped the fight, the round *might* be scored 10-7.

(e) It's quite improper to give any fighter fewer than seven points in a round, even if he was on the floor 28 times.

Many TV commentators, when scoring fights unofficially, will be a little more courageous, sometimes giving a fighter a 10-8 round even if there was no knockdown. "You got 10 points to work with; you might as well use 'em," they'll say. Quite right. The New Jersey Athletic Commission, at the urging of commissioner Larry Hazzard, has been encouraging its judges to give more 10-8 and 10-7 rounds. Again, quite right.

But these little inroads don't go nearly far enough. The system isn't a three-point must; it's a 10-point must. So for crying out loud, why not use all 10 points?

If the 10-point-must system is to work as it's supposed to, officials will have to stop hanging around the top end of the point spectrum. They should give not only 10-8 and 10-7 rounds, but 10-4, 10-3 and even 10-2 rounds from time to time. Ten-nine scores should be reserved for only the very closest of close rounds; if there's to be a "standard" score, it should be around the 10-7 or 10-6 mark.

Here is how the 10-point-must system ought to be used:

A 10-10 round should almost never be seen. If you know what to look for (and aren't judges supposed to know this?) you'll see maybe one even round in every 20 rounds of boxing you watch.

A 10-9 round should signify a hair's-breadth margin for one fighter. It should be seen almost as rarely as a 10-10 round.

A 10-8 round should indicate a perceptible, but still small advantage for one fighter.

A 10-7 round should indicate a moderate advantage; 10-6, a decisive advantage; 10-5, complete domination by one fighter; 10-4, a near-rout; 10-3 an utter rout. If you score a round 10-2, 10-1 or 10-0, it means the ref isn't doing his job.

A knockdown should still carry great weight in the scoring of a round, but it must be kept in mind that no knockdown is like another. I have seen rounds in which boxer A decks boxer B, but in which B deserved the round nonetheless. I have also seen many rounds in which there was no knockdown, but in which one fighter deserved far more points than the other. Recent respective examples are the first round of the Bobby Czyz-Willie Edwards bout (which I scored 10-9 Czyz) and the 10th round of the Mike Tyson-James Smith bout (which I scored 10-5 Tyson).

The 10-point-must system, ideally, should be paired with the rounds system. In each bout, a judge should have two scorecards, one using the 10-point-must, the other using rounds. At the end of the fight, if one system yields one winner and the other a different result, he may have his choice as to which card he turns in. If, for instance, this system had been in effect for the first Joe Louis-Joe Walcott bout, back in 1947, a new champion might have been crowned.

Most of the lousy officiating we see has to do with the officials' misuse of the rules. But in some cases, the rules themselves are ridiculous.

Another rule that no official seems to have the first idea about is the question of what constitutes a knockdown. You'll see this little beauty pop up in just about any evening at the fights; the most recent example in a title fight was the Lloyd Honeyghan-Johnny Bumphus brawl. What I'm talking about is when a fighter is knocked into the ropes, helpless, and would be on the canvas except that the ropes are holding him up. This happened to Bumphus, you'll recall, and the referee blithely allowed Honeyghan to sock him a few times more, even as Johnny was searching desperately for a nice bit of canvas to settle on.

Note that the Marquess of Queensberry rules clearly state the following: "If a man

PHOTO BY CHRIS FARINA

Should Bonecrusher Smith (left) have been disqualified for his constant holding against Mike Tyson? THE RING's Joseph D'O'Brian thinks so. See "Whatever Happened To The Rules?" for details.

is hanging on the ropes in a helpless state with his toes off the ground, he shall be considered down." There was a similar provision under the London Prize Ring (bare-knuckle) rules: If a fighter were hung up on the ropes, or if his opponent were holding him upright to administer more punishment, the umpires should declare him down.

When something like that happens, the referee should stop the action and start a count immediately. If he doesn't do this, he has not read the rules and has no business being a referee.

The recent thrill-a-minute Tyson-Smith extravaganza showed the usually competent Mills Lane turning in one of his poorer refereeing performances. Twice in the fight he took points away from Smith for stalling (he was right to do this; in fact he should have disqualified the bum), while he no more than wagged his finger at Tyson for hitting Smith after the bell in the first round.

This indicates a rather frightening trend in officiating these days: to wink at a popular fighter's infractions, while penalizing his less-popular opponent. Now, I like Mike Tyson; he's the greatest thing since the personal vibrator. But if it had been me in that ring, I would not have hesitated to dock him the round. Lane should have had the guts to do the same.

Most of the lousy officiating we see has to do with the officials' misuse of the rules. But in some cases, the rules themselves are ridiculous. I've already spent a lot of ink railing at the idiocy of the three-knockdown rule and the standing eight-count; another rule that really bugs me is the "saved-by-the-bell" rule.

You know that one: If a fighter is knocked down at the end of the round, he can't be saved by the bell; he has to get up before "10," even if the bell rang earlier—except in the last round. Then, even if he is sleeping as deeply as Snow White, he is not knocked out if the bell rings in time.

You seldom see this happen, of course. The most famous example took place in 1909 when Philadelphia Jack O'Brien, having outboxed Stanley Ketchel for 10 rounds, was coldcocked with two seconds left in the bout. The bell rang with O'Brien snoring away, flat on his back—but if it hadn't been a no-decision bout, he would have been the winner.

Granted, that sort of thing is rare. But rare or not, does anybody seriously propose that if a man can't finish a bout on his feet, he's entitled to the decision? Lest we forget, the primary objective of boxing is to render your opponent *hors de combat*. Decisions are to be rendered only if neither boxer can accomplish this goal.

Now, I've given you a start. So it's up to you, the readers, to turn this into a parlor game for when you're hashing things over after a night at the fights. Go through the rules, identify the bad ones and identify the good ones that nobody pays attention to. If we all work together on this, we may one day be blessed with a corps of officials to whom we've managed to teach those rules. Not in our lifetimes, of course. □

The RING SINCE 1922

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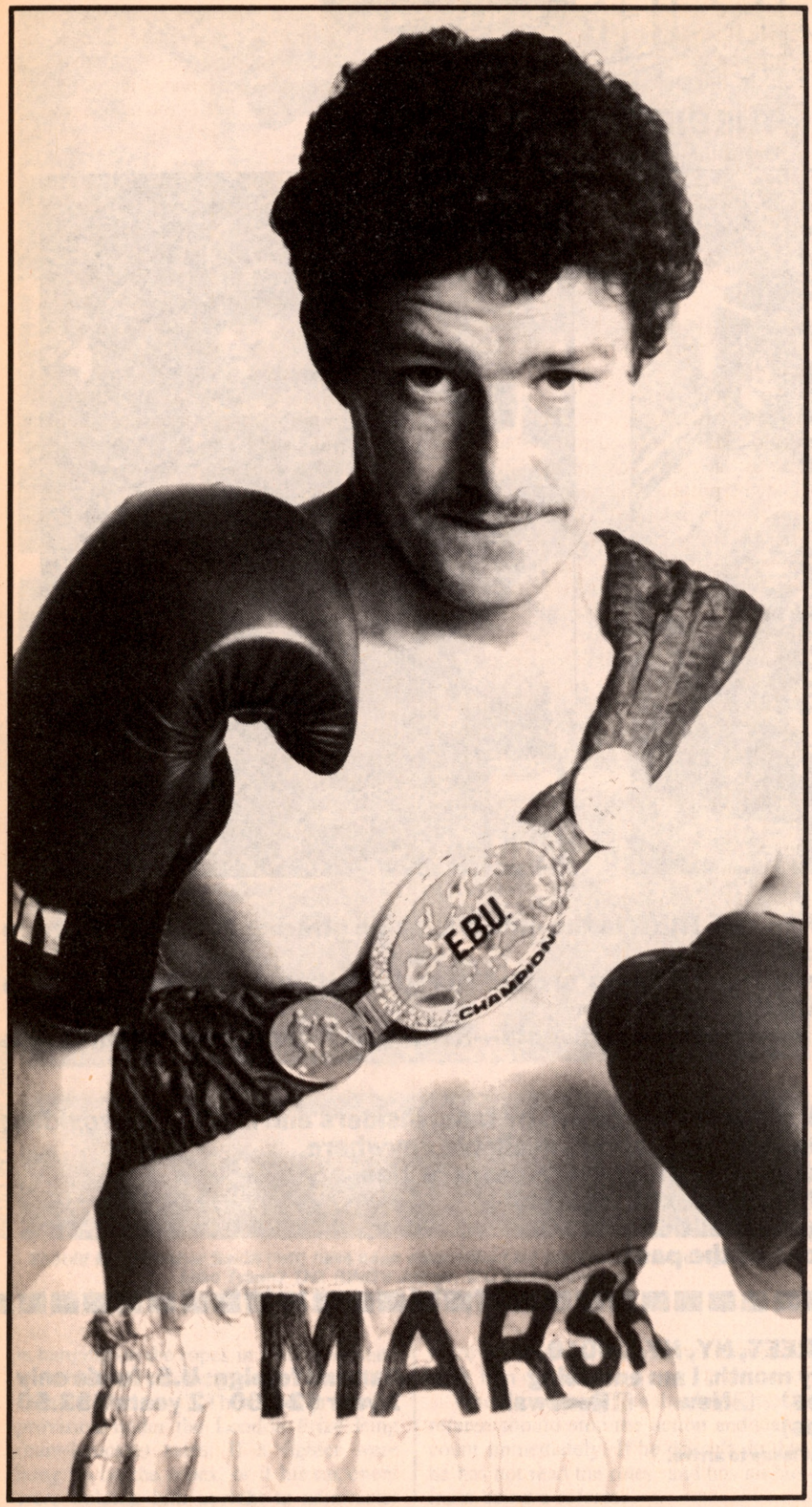


Terry Marsh now has the IBF junior welterweight belt to go with the EBU model he's wearing in this shot. Marsh is now considering putting on a few pounds and challenging Lloyd Honyghan for the welterweight crown.

Terry Marsh: A Clown No Longer

by Jonathan Shapiro

THEY DON'T MAKE MOVIES OR WRITE stories about guys like Terry Marsh. They draw comic books about them. England's newest champion is pure superhero. Flying is about the only thing he can't do, although when he beat Joe Louis Manley for the IBF junior welterweight crown March 4, he did execute a nifty little somersault.

Maybe they should call him Captain Versatility. At 29, he has been a Royal Marine, a fireman, a boxer—as well as a chess champion, a college student and a devoted husband and father. Polite, funny and modest, he combines the brains of Clark Kent with the brawn of Superman.

"I don't walk around like some sort of Rambo, looking for trouble," Marsh insisted, "but I'm not afraid of anything either."

It may be hard to believe now, but prior to the Manley fight about the only comic strip character Marsh reminded people of was Mickey Mouse.

It wasn't that he didn't have a fine record (24-0-1). It was just that he did not look, sound or act like a man with a burning desire to beat a tough champion (Manley had been a Marine himself, after all).

Traditionally a slow, stand-up boxer, Marsh was not what you would call widely feared. If he had a knockout punch, he had done a pretty good job of hiding it during his five-year professional career. And his pre-fight interviews did little to put fear into the hearts of his opponents.

"I don't know anything about him, but that's the way I like it." he said of Manley. "For all I know he could be 6′8″ with six hands. The less I know, the more afraid I am, the harder I train. I never hate the other guy, I fear him, and that's the secret to preparing well for a fight."

Marsh claimed he was scared to death of Manley. When he appeared in pre-fight

publicity shots dressed in a clown suit—baggy pants, red nose, floppy shoes—he did not inspire a great deal of confidence among the British boxing crowd. They figured promoter Frank Warren decided to hold the title bout in a circus tent in order to make Terry feel at home.

And if this were not enough, Marsh spent the days before his shot at the title discussing his retirement plans.

"I'm 28—a young 28, I hasten to add—which is getting old by boxing standards. After I win the title, I hope to defend just once, to prove that it wasn't a fluke, and then retire," he said. "I very much look forward to resting on my laurels."

This did not sound like a hungry fighter. Then again, Marsh had always seemed like a reluctant pugilist. A full-time fireman, he trains when he can, and that means when he is not working one of his nine or 15 hour shifts at the station.

"I love being a fireman," he said. "I enjoy boxing, too, but I really won't miss it that much. Hungry fighters are also desperate, and that makes them irrational. My determination to do well is enough."

If Marsh was trying to convince Manley and the boxing world that the American would have any easy defense, he was doing a good job.

But there was always more to Marsh than met the eye, as March 4 demonstrated.

To his credit, Manley arrived here fit and mean. And as he went through his paces, one started to fear for old Terry's health. But Marsh had prepared himself for the fight of his life. As he climbed into the ring under the Big Top, the clown suit was nowhere to be seen.

At the first bell, the fireman fighter came out smoking. Eager to establish himself, he extinguished Manley's offense by smothering him with slashing hooks. Gone was the ponderous style of old. Marsh swarmed over his man, beating him to the punch time and time again.

When he could not land a punch, Marsh tried to land his head (he was warned for butting). And when he could no longer land that, he held. By the seventh round, the most fatigued man in the ring was referee Randy Neuman, who was forced to seperate the two men repeatedly.

When Marsh was not thoroughly frustrating Manley, he was scoring points with the hometown crowd by waving like a ringmaster after every round. By the middle of the fifth, the boisterous throng was singing Land of Hope and Glory, and greeting everything Marsh threw with a loud ovation.

Anyone who knew Marsh might have known it would go the way it did. It was a thinking man's fight. Manley had been lured to England by the prospect of easy pickings, but Marsh had a whole new game plan up his sleeve.

Part of the strategy was mental intimidation. "I'd read a profile about Manley in *The Ring* magazine in which he said his hero was Joe Frazier, and when the going got tough, he would just repeat 'Frazier, Frazier,' to himself. So at the end of the sixth, I said to him, 'Joe Frazier won't help you now, mate,' and I saw the will drain from his face," Marsh said afterwards.

An all-out, bell to bell attack was the last thing the American could have expected. Marsh seemed to have forgotten how to back up. Toward the end of the ninth, he put the American champ on the canvas with a wicked combination to the head. Manley survived to the bell, but Marsh was quickly back on the job, putting his man down again with only 20 seconds gone in the 10th. Neuman declared it over at that point, thereby saving Manley further punishment (Dennis Andries should have been so lucky).

"Boxing is like chess," Marsh said later. "Strategy is everything." At 13, Marsh defeated 120 other boys in an all-London schools chess competition, and recently, he purchased a computer to play against.

"I'm disappointed with it—it gives up too easily," he said.

Every champion takes a different road to the title, but Marsh seems to have taken more than his share of side trips. When he was 11, his father suggested he take up boxing, and though he lost his first fight, the younger Marsh went on to win three ABA titles during an undefeated amateur career.

Despite good grades in high school, Marsh turned down college for the Royal Marines, where he served in Northern Ireland and elsewhere with the British equivalent of the Green Berets.

"If you can come through that, you can come through anything," he said. "Marine training is sheer hell, and I have never met anyone who enjoyed it."

Despite the hardship, Marsh had every intention of pursuing a military career. "Without a college education, however, I could not be an officer, so I quit the service to get a degree." Ironically, it was a decision which guaranteed a career in boxing and firefighting.

"The only means I had of paying for my education was boxing. That worked out for a time, but then I hurt my hand. Without boxing, I needed some new income, so I signed-up for a six month training course to be a fireman. I liked it a lot, and by the time that I got my degree, I decided to stay with it instead of the Marines."

Since returning to boxing as a pro in 1981, he has managed at least four fights a year. In 1984, he outpointed always dangerous Clinton McKenzie for the British light welterweight title. He successfully defended five times before defeating Alessandro Scappecchi for the European crown. With victories in 25 fights, his record is marred only by a draw with Chris Sanigar suffered in 1982.

"I'm not looking for castles, diamond rings and yachts. I enjoy my life as a fireman and I want to go on working," he said. Marsh's purse for the 40 minutes of work it took to knock out Manley was exactly five times what he makes in a year at the station. Despite that, he was back at the Tilbury Fire Station as one of a 12-member crew just two days after his championship bout.

You get the idea that Marsh is just a little crazy. After all, most people spend their lives avoiding tense situations. The average guy would rather not step into a burning house, or a boxing ring, for that matter. But Marsh thrives on it.

"I guess I like living on the edge. Being a fireman is a great job, even if the money isn't so hot. There would be a huge void if I stopped fighting and being a fireman at the same time," he said.

It is not at all clear when he intends on stopping either profession. Despite earlier statements, Marsh has made it clear he would like to move up to welterweight—his natural weight—in order to face fellow countryman Lloyd Honeyghan.

The All-British contest would be a huge money-maker as more than a few here would dearly love to see the abrasive Honeyghan humbled. Rivalry between Mickey Duff (Honeyghan's manager) and Frank Warren (Marsh's man) might prevent it from coming off, which may be just as well for Marsh, who seems to have been bitten by a bit of over-confidence of late.

"My unbeaten record means more to me than the title, and I want to end my career undefeated," he said.

That seems to be as good a reason as any not to mix it up with Honeyghan. For Marsh to beat him, he would have to be faster then a speeding bullet, able to leap tall buildings in a single bound . . . and a few pounds heavier to boot. □

THE SECOND COMING OF GEORGE FOREMAN

Former Heavyweight Champion Returns After 10-Year Retirement

by Nigel Collins

MEMORIES OF GEORGE FOREMAN flick past the mind's eye like a series of grainy, old black and white newspaper photos. One of the earliest is of Foreman parading around the ring in Mexico City with a tiny American flag in his hand after winning the heavyweight gold medal at the 1968 Olympics.

The United States was bogged down in an unpopular war in Viet Nam at the time, a war that saw a disproportionate number of black Americans die in the jungles of South East Asia. Several black American medal winners raised a clenched fist during the playing of the American national anthem. George's patriotic gesture seemed drastically out of synch with the times.

Nineteen years later, Foreman is still out of synch.

At age 38, following a 10-year hiatus from the ring, George is back trying to regain the title he lost to Muhammad Ali in 1974.

Foreman's original retirement came rather abruptly following his 12-round points loss to Jimmy Young in '77. It was a close fight and only the second defeat of his career. But as most boxing fans know, Foreman claims to have had a religious experience in his dressing room shortly after the fight that changed his life—and his occupation.

"I met up with Jesus Christ himself," reported Foreman. "It tore me apart not being a Christian; scared me a little, too. I actually died, then life came back into me after a moment's time."

Foreman's trainers and most boxing people figured Foreman was simply suffering from exhaustion and dehydration (the Young bout was held outdoors in San Juan, Puerto Rico), but true to his word, Foreman retired and became a minister. He founded a church in an economically depressed neighborhood just north of Houston and began to preach. Three years ago, he also opened a gym, the George Foreman Youth and Recreation Center.

Though Foreman is hardly wealthy, he has a modest income from a trust fund established with some of his ring earnings. However, as time went by, George realized he simply didn't have enough money to accomplish the things he wants for his community. He dreams of opening more gyms and establishing a college scholarship for underprivileged kids.

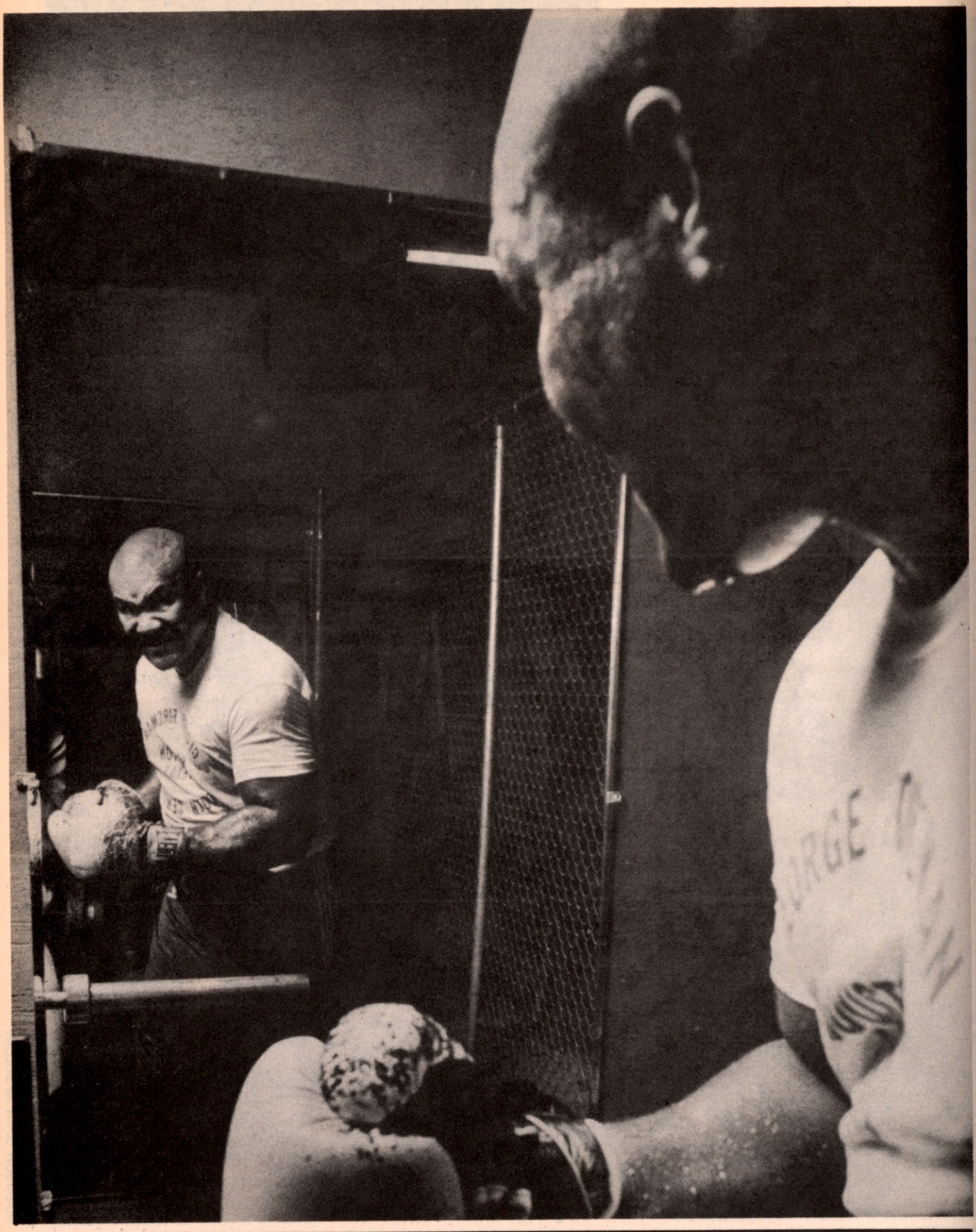
Motivated by his desire to help others, Foreman decided to return to professional boxing in order to raise the funds he needs to continue his various charitable and religious projects. At first, few believed he would actually go through with it. During

At age 38, following a 10-year hiatus from the ring, George is back trying to regain the title he lost to Muhammad Ali in 1974.

Foreman nursing a bruised eye following his recent comeback victory.

PHOTOS BY MARC MORRISON

George Foreman (right) gets back into the swing of things after a 10-year layoff with a fourth round TKO over hapless Steve Zouski in Sacramento, California.



Still mean looking after all these years, Foreman strikes a fearsome pose in the gym mirror.

The Rev. Foreman ministering to his flock at his church near Houston, Texas.

"I felt great," said Foreman. "I was really satisfied. I wanted to go 10 rounds, but I got a little bruise under my left eye and I decided I better try to get a kayo."

his retirement, George ballooned to over 300 pounds, approximately 70 pounds above his best fighting weight.

He began training in earnest, running six miles most mornings, lifting weights and sparring. George also limited his diet to fish and vegetables, a mighty sacrifice for a man who admittedly loves to consume junk foods in large quantities.

"I hate it (the training and dieting)," said Foreman. "But I can't be as good as I once was and come back. I gotta' be better than these young guys. Sit-ups, leg lifts, things I would never do before, I gotta do now."

After several changes of venue, Foreman's comeback finally got underway March 9 at the ARCO Arena in Sacramento, California. His opponent was shopworn Steve Zouski, a pudgy veteran from Brockton, Mass., who hasn't won too many fights in recent years.

Despite his rigorous training program, Foreman weighed a whopping 267, looking a lot like a black version of the marsh mallow monster in the movie "Ghost Busters." Never the most agile of heavyweights, George lumbered after Zouski, tossing ponderous punches in the general direction of his 212-pound adversary.

Cheered on by a surprisingly large and vocal crowd of well over 5,000, Foreman wobbled the passive Zouski with a left hook in the fourth and referee Hank Elespuru mercifully intervened 2:47 into the round, raising Foreman's career record to 46-2 with 43 knockouts. Zouski slipped to an undistinguished 25-11.

"I felt great," said Foreman. "I was really satisfied. I wanted to go 10 rounds, but I got a little bruise under my left eye and I decided I better try to get a kayo."

Though Zouski admitted Foreman "has some pretty decent power," he was not as impressed by the former heavyweight champion as he was by Mike Tyson, who had also stopped Steve in four rounds.

"There's no snap in his punches," claimed the loser. "They didn't really hurt. They were thudding punches. Mike Tyson has much more snap. They hurt more."

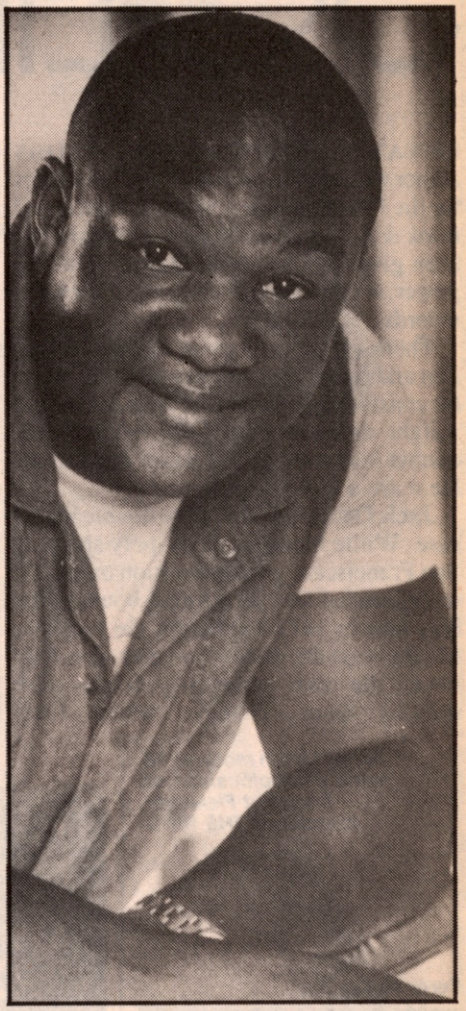
Tyson was also on Foreman's mind.

"I admire Mike Tyson," Foreman said. "But I think I can beat him after a few more fights."

While just fighting Tyson seems only a remote possibility, stranger things have happened. A year ago, nobody thought Foreman would get this far.

The Ring has mixed feelings about Foreman's comeback. It's always sad when a former champion returns to active combat after a long layoff. They are seldom anywhere near as good as before. But now that Foreman has taken the plunge, it will be interesting to see how far he can go. The California Athletic Commission has told him he will have to lose some more weight if he wants to fight there again.

Practically unmarked from his boxing career, Foreman looks more like a movie star than a fighter in this picture.



Foreman has never taken too many beatings, and as long as he is watched closely and not overmatched, he shouldn't come to any harm.

Foreman has never taken too many beatings, and as long as he is watched closely and not overmatched, he shouldn't come to any harm.

Foreman may still be out of synch, but you've got to admire his gumption. □

SOLID GOLD MAN

REPEATED PROMPTING HAS LED THIS author to prepare a set of all-time rankings for the 1986-87 edition of *The Ring Record Book & Boxing Encyclopedia*. Weight has been given to such things as form, hitting power, the opinions of contemporaries and records.

There are several great fighters of the dim and recent past whose positions would be considerably higher in their respective weight divisions had they not suffered double losses to men of lesser reputation. Here are a few examples:

Jack Dempsey. A double double in this case. Willie Meehan, a roly-poly slapping San Franciscan, got the decision over Jack in two out of five four-round bouts in the Bay area in 1917-18, before the Manassa Mauler won the title. (Dempsey won only once; the two remaining bouts were draws.) Gene Tunney, whose fistic abilities are very underrated by contemporary sportswriters, licked Jack good in two 10-round bouts almost a decade later.

Sonny Liston. Had it not been for his two highly suspicious losses to Muhammad Ali, Liston would have to be ranked as the greatest heavyweight of all-time.

Joe Frazier. Frazier would be in the top five it it weren't for his two decisive losses to George Foreman. As it is, he's rated 10th.

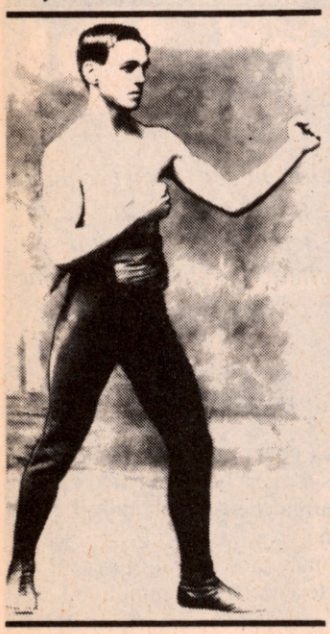
Jack Root. The first generally recognized world light heavyweight champion, he later managed a vaudeville theatre, lived a long time and got very friendly with historians like Charley Rose and Nat Fleischer. It's difficult to justify the high rankings that have been given him, especially since George Gardner, his hard-hitting but generally uninspired contemporary, knocked him out on two occasions. (Root beat Gardner twice—once on a foul and once on points over six rounds—and fought a draw with him in their three other meetings. George's younger brother, Jimmy, who later claimed the welter title, was actually a better fighter.) He's not in my top 20.

Frank Klaus. One of the toughest fighters of all-time, he probably had something of the better of Stanley Ketchel when they fought in Pittsburgh on March 23, 1910. (Most of the newsmen at ringside carded it a draw.) Two kayo losses at the hands of George Chip in 1913 drop his all-time ranking well below that of the more famed Michigan Assassin.

Terry McGovern. "Terrible Terry" was immensely popular in Brooklyn in the late 1890s, and his record was incredible from September 15, 1889 through May 29, 1901—39 straight wins with 33 knockouts

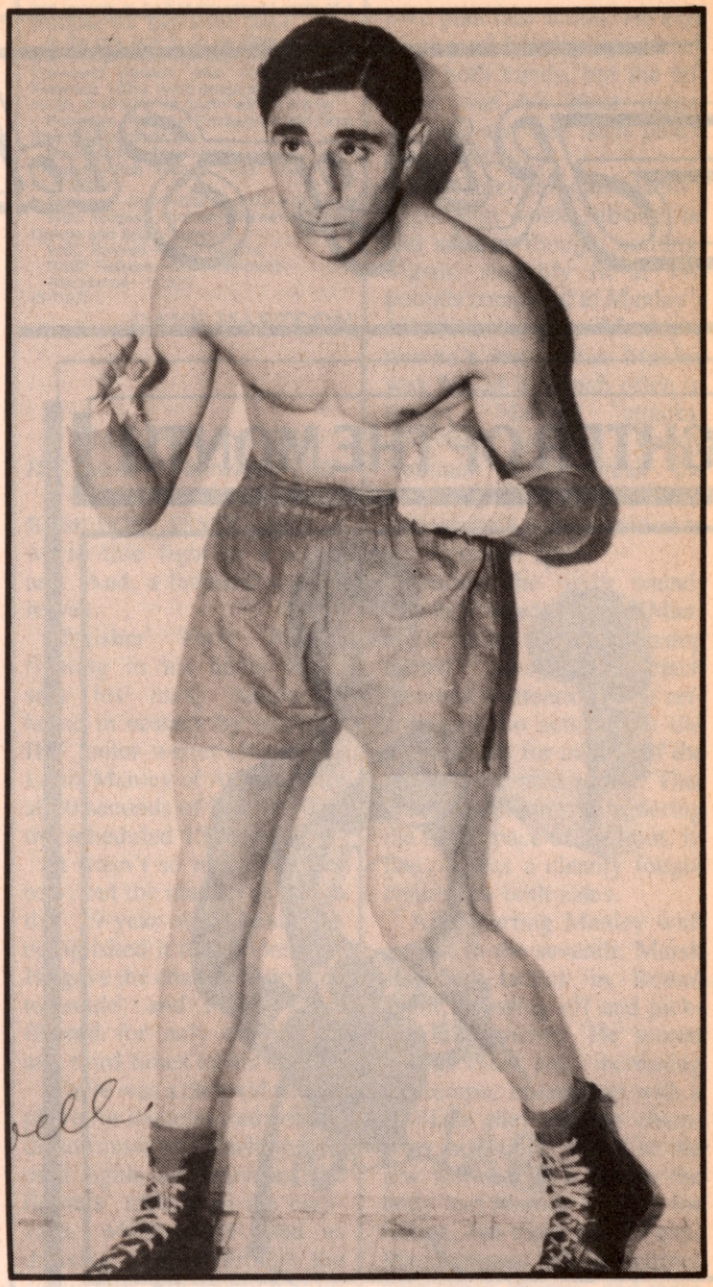
Sonny Liston receives his world championship belt from Nat Fleischer, founder of THE RING.

Terry McGovern



Jack Root

Vic Toweel



against the top bantamweights, featherweights and lightweights of the time. McGovern's success was not, however, due entirely to his own efforts. The great Joe Gans went into the tank for him, and Terry's managers, Sam H. Harris (later a top theatrical producer) and Joe Humphreys (boxing's most famous announcer of the microphoneless "old school"), forced many of his opponents to make weight for the Brooklyn Terror. (Reigning world lightweight champion Frank Erne, for instance, was forced to make 128 for a non-title bout with McGovern in New York on July 16, 1900. Terry knocked him out in the third round, but could not claim the lightweight crown as a result of the arrangement). Billy Rothwell, a stocky (5 ft. 2½ in.) feather/lightweight who fought under the name of Young Corbett II, found that making 126 did not weaken him against Terry in Hartford, Conn. on November 28, 1901. Full of confidence, he baited Terry with a pre-fight insult and knocked him out in the second round. A return bout, held in San Francisco on March 31, 1903, saw McGovern floored for the full count in round 11. It is hard to call McGovern the greatest featherweight of all-time as Fleischer did. I rank him as a bantamweight—and not in the top 10.

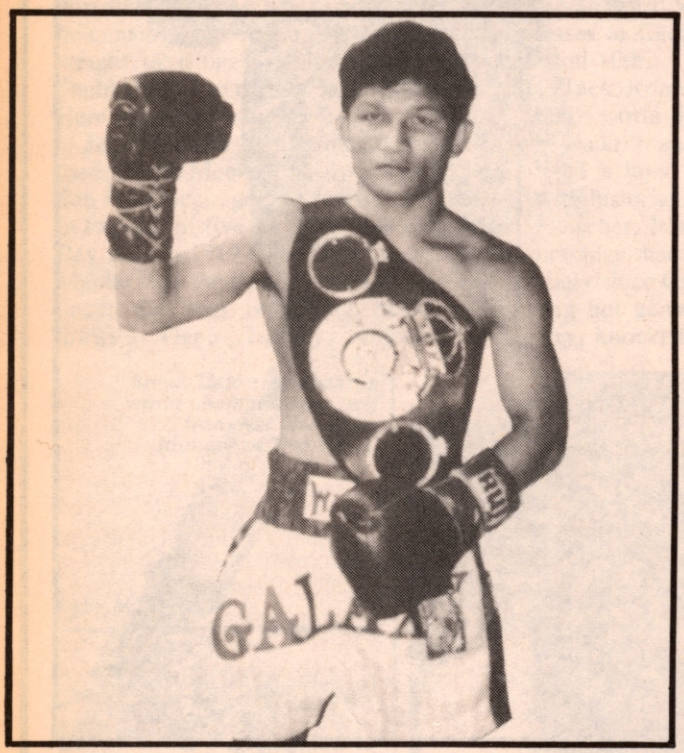
Henry Armstrong. He's ranked highly as a lightweight—which is what he was—but probably not as highly as he would have been if Fritzie Zivic hadn't licked him twice. (Henry outscored Fritzie in a third bout.)

Willie Pep. In third place as a feather, behind Arguello (all-time leader) and Jim Driscoll. His three losses (one by knockout, two by suspicious looking TKOs) to Sandy Saddler put him below Driscoll. I put Saddler sixth, Attell and Dundee fourth and fifth.

Vic Toweel. South Africa's first undisputed world champion, and the best fighter that country has ever produced. He failed to make my top 20 bantamweights due to the two knockouts he suffered at the hands of Australia's Jimmy Carruthers. □

Ring Side Reports

FIGHTER OF THE MONTH



Thailand's Kaosai Galaxy earned THE RING's Fighter of the Month award by defending his WBA junior bantamweight belt with a 14th round kayo over Ellyas Pical, the IBF titleholder.

Thailand's **Kaosai Galaxy** is *The Ring's* Fighter of the Month by virtue of his 14th round knockout over Ellyas Pical in Jakarta, Indonesia in defense of his WBA junior bantamweight title. Pical, Indonesia's first world champion, was the IBF 115-pound titleholder going into the match.

Runner-up this month is Venezuela's **Antonio Esparragoza,** who won the world (and WBA) featherweight title with a thrilling 12th round TKO over Steve Cruz in Fort Worth, Texas.

A couple of honorable mentions go to Korean **Myung-Woo Yuh** and American **Pernell Whitaker.** Yuh defended the WBA junior flyweight belt with a stunning first-round knockout over Panamanian challenger Eduardo Tunon; while Whitaker won the NABF lightweight title with a 12-round unanimous decision over Roger Mayweather. □

HEARNS-ANDRIES
WBC Light Heavyweight Title

DETROIT—THOMAS "HIT Man" Hearns took a huge step forward into boxing history when he stopped defending WBC light heavyweight champion Dennis Andries at 1:26 of the 10th round of the scheduled 12-round defense.

Fighting before his hometown fans in the Cobo Arena. Hearns joined a select few who have captured three world championships in three different weight classes. He also became the first welterweight champion to win the light heavyweight championship. The historic moment is but the third jewel in Hearns' lifetime goal of winning four different world championships. Hearns captured his first title, the WBA welterweight crown, August 2, 1980, when he knocked out Pipino Cuevas in two rounds. A 15-round decision over Wilfred Benitez December 3, 1982, added the WBC junior middleweight title. Having beaten Andries to acquire his third championship, Hearns now intends to drop back down to the middleweight class to go after one of the titles expected to open up following the Marvin Hagler/Ray Leonard bout.

"We're not gonna' wait for Hagler," said Hearns' manager Emanuel Steward. "If Hagler wins and wants to fight Tommy, we'll make that our first priority. But if Hagler hesitates, we won't wait for him. We'll just go for the IBF title. He'd fight either Robbie Sims or Michael Olajide."

Hearns, 173¾, was very impressive in improving his record to 44-2 against the Englishman, who weighed 173½. Andries spent much of his time winging punches at phantoms and harmlessly punching air.

Hearns, using his superior speed and reach, opened the fight by keeping Andries at bay with a hard jab. In the second, Hearns found the mark with his right, hurting Andries a few times. Each time, the defending champ grabbed and during one of these mauling sessions, a cut was opened over Hearns' left eye.

A busier and more active Hearns controlled the next two rounds, feeding a steady diet of jabs to Andries. The British fighter tried to jab at Hearns' cut and when Hearns coasted in the fifth, Andries tried to bull and muscle his way in, winning the round on one scorecard.

Reality struck for Andries in the sixth canto when a single right hand sent him toppling backward to the canvas. Sensing his prey was in trouble, Hearns climbed all over Andries, putting him down twice more. In between being bounced around by Hearns, the stumbling, dazed Andries slipped twice more to the canvas. But referee Isaac Herrera allowed the bout to continue as Andries slipped, slid and scrambled around the ring, desperately trying to survive. While the fans screamed

UPI/BETTMAN NEWSPHOTO

Thomas "Hit Man" Hearns sends WBC light heavyweight champion Dennis Andries to the floor in the eighth round of their title bout in Detroit. Hearns scored a TKO in the 10th round, winning the third world title of his career.

for the fight to be stopped, the clinging Andries actually started to get his act together again by the end of the round. One judge scored the frame 10-5.

In the seventh, the Detroiter, waiting to unleash his right, pursued the Brit, but Andries became more aggressive and fought back, landing some brutal shots to the body of Hearns. It may have been Andries' best round as the blows appeared to slow the Hearns' press some.

But Hearns took control again in the eighth, using his strong jab and a good right hand. The exchanges grew heavier in the ninth, with Hearns continuing to keep Andries off balance. A powerful right hand rocked Andries and another dropped him for the fourth time. Beating the count, Andries wrestled with Hearns and both tumbled to the deck. The bell saved Andries from further punishment, but it was obvious at this point that the one-sided fight was close to being over.

Hearns pressed the action in the 10th and, despite Andries' attempts to wrestle himself out of trouble, managed to put the British star on the mat again. A dazed Andries rose, turned his back and stumbled into a neutral corner, and the referee stepped in and called it a night.

As Andries leaned against the ropes, Hearns and his cornermen leaped for joy while the 11,230 fans cheered their favorite hero. It was a big win, a one-sided win for Hearns, who fought like a champion. Andries fought like a clumsy clubfighter.

They should have just handed the NABF super welterweight championship belt to Milton "The Iceman" McCrory instead of making him go through the farce of fighting Mexico's Rafael Corona for the vacant title.

Corona could have just sent his green card with "I quit!" printed on it and saved everyone a whole lot of embarrassment. The Mexican, whose record was listed as 22-5 or 18-9, depending on which record-keeper you asked, had no intention of fighting. He came for the money only, and his performance makes one wonder how he managed even one victory.

McCrory, 154, stalked his opponent and threw a light left hook to feel out his foe. Corona went down! When he got up, McCrory tried to measure him with a pair of jabs, and down went Corona again. A surprised referee, Arthur Mercante, counted while Corona climbed to his feet. Angry and embarrassed, McCrory pushed Corona, 152¼, against the ropes and unleashed a flurry of punches. Only a few landed on the ducking Corona but, once again, he hit the deck.

McCrory was getting a little frustrated at this point. It certainly wasn't the way he wanted to win a title. After Corona got up, McCrory moved in, anxious to get in a good shot. He landed a pair of light lefts and cocked his right hand, but Corona went down for the fourth time before McCrory could unleash his punch. Mercante mercifully stopped matters at that juncture, the whole mess having lasted just 1:45.

The victory improved McCrory's record to 31-1-1, but it didn't let him demonstrate his abilities and the crowd booed and jeered. Corona, one would hope, will never be seen or heard from again. The NABF should take care in seeing he never gets back into the ratings.

Michigan featherweight and junior lightweight champion Erskine Wade, 132, survived an early knockdown to score a three-round TKO over Milwaukee's Richard Campbell, 131¾, when Campbell dislocated his right shoulder and couldn't continue the scheduled eight-rounder. Wade, who resides in Detroit, improved to 17-4-1.

Warren's Phillip Morefield, "The Michigan Assassin," ended a four-month layoff by destroying Paterson, New Jersey's Tim Richardson at 23 seconds of the second round. Morefield, who weighed 168¼ in boosting his record to 14-0-1, had the 169-pound Richardson on the canvas in both rounds of the scheduled eight.

St. Louis' Louis Howard had little trouble raising his pro log to 10-0, scoring a TKO at 28 seconds of the second round over Milwaukee's Mark French. Howard weighed 151 for the scheduled six, with French coming in at 149½.

New Kronk pro Stanley Longstreet, 137¾, made it two straight when Gary Smith, 139, had enough at 2:53 of the second canto of a scheduled four. Each is from Detroit.

In the only fight to go the distance, Lima, Ohio's Ralph Ward, 160, scored a unanimous, four-round decision over Ypsilanti's Ken Kirkwood, 162½. Ward swept all three cards, 40-36, in winning his fourth without a loss.

Promoter—Ringside Productions and Greg Steene Promotions Ltd.

Matchmaker—Tom Vacca.

Judges—Bob Watson, Rose Grable and Rich Fisher.

Referees—Sam Williams and Dale Grable.

WBC Judges—Abraham Chavarria, Miguel Donate and Angel Guzman.

WBC Referee—Isaac Herrera.

NABF Referee—Arthur Mercante.

Attendance—11,320.

(3-7-87)

DAVE HARTOON

MARSH-MANLEY

IBF Junior Welterweight Title

BASILDON, ESSEX—YES, A world title fight in a circus tent. And, a fantastic success it was.

Britisher Terry Marsh, fighting in his home town, sent his many supporters home in ecstacy by stopping IBF junior welter champ Joe Louis Manley of Atlantic City at 20 seconds of Round 10 of the scheduled 15-rounder.

It wasn't so much the victory, but the manner in which the 29-year-old Marsh accomplished it that impressed. He gave the champion no time to settle, and Manley was floored for only the second and third times in his career.

There was a carnival atmosphere for the televised bout as disco music and flashing colored lights accompanied the fighters' trips from the caravans, which were used as dressing rooms, through the circus tent. But Marsh was all business from the start, shocking the fans who expected him to keep the fight at long range, at least for a few rounds, by using his boxing skill and accurate left jab. Instead, the new champion, unbeaten in 26 bouts, raced across the ring to take the fight to Manley.

Manley did his best to punch with Marsh, but didn't succeed as Marsh took the round on sheer aggression and the number of punches landed. Round Two went the same, with Marsh never giving the champ time to put his own plan into action. He kept on top of Manley, punching with both hands, but the left hook was his most potent weapon and one such punch rocked Manley.

If Manley thought Marsh's aggression would subside, he had another thought coming. Marsh, superbly fit at 140 pounds compared to Manley's 138½, never gave Manley a minute's rest. Thus Manley was forced to clinch often to thwart Marsh's attacks. American referee Randy Neuman would break the clinches, and Marsh would immediately take the action to his opponent again.

During the sixth round, Marsh's head caught Manley's chin and the champ turned away to catch Neuman's attention. The referee took no action, but did warn Marsh for misuse of the head in the next round. That wasn't surprising, considering the hectic pace of the bout. In fact, it was a cleanly fought contest on both sides.

After hurting Manley with a right in the seventh, Marsh switched tactics in Round Eight, standing off and picking his punches. He scored just as often and, increasing the tempo, opened up with a fusillade that put the champion in trouble. A left to the jaw follwed by a left to the body had Manley looking for refuge, but there wasn't any. Marsh pinned him in a corner with quick flurries, and there was no letup until the bell.

It seemed Marsh had been given the green light to go all out in the ninth, and he pinned Manley in a corner, then on the ropes, eventually landing a left to the chin that sent the champion on his way to the canvas. Before Manley landed, Marsh landed a right cross to the jaw that spreadeagled his opponent. Neuman started to count, but the bell rang. The referee continued the mandatory eight and as he did so the ringside doctor climbed onto the ring

apron. Neuman decided he was not required, however.

Marsh shot out of his corner as the 10th round started, driving the champion around the ring and along the ropes until a left hand put him down again. Neuman obviously intended to intervene, but reacted too late to save Manley from the knockdown. The result was announced as a count-out, but Neuman made no attempt to pick up the count from the timekeeper, being more concerned with the welfare of the fallen boxer. Manley was examined at a hospital after, but was not detained.

"It was the fifth wedding anniversary for my wife, Jackie, and I," said Marsh. "It was also my daughter Kelly's third birthday, so I couldn't let them down, could I? Usually, I do my own thing in the gym, but this time I listened intently to trainer Ernie Fossey, and I owe him a lot for this victory."
(3-4-87)

RON OLVER

BASSA-ZAPATA
WBA Flyweight Title

BARRANQUILLA, COLOMBIA—Panama's Hilario Zapata may have been able to overcome Colombia's Fidel Bassa. Overcoming Bassa and many of his countrymen proved a bit much to ask of the WBA's flyweight king, however.

After a wild and bizarre 15 rounds in the Tennis Stadium of the Country Club, Bassa was crowned new champion via a unanimous decision. American judge Albert Wislesky scored 146-141, with Puerto Rican Bernardo Soto seeing it 145-141 and Venezuelan Julio Roldan calling it 146-142.

The 24-year-old Bassa, with only 17 professional fights, was not considered much of a threat to the veteran Zapata, who counted 21 championship fights among his 40 ring appearances. But Bassa was the aggressor, mixing lefts and rights to the body with a little help from his friends.

The eighth round saw Zapata cut on the lip, but that proved to be just a minor obstacle. In the same round, he was drawn into Bassa's corner where he was allegedly attacked by someone other than the challenger as fans swarmed toward the ring. Zapata's seconds helped the champion to the safe territory of his own corner where he was allowed a five-minute rest period to recover.

The fans didn't let up, though, continuing to taunt Zapata with jeers while using the Panamanian for target practice, beer cans being the most popular missile.

Though the 15 rounds were eventually completed, the WBA is reportedly considering banning this city and possibly the country of Colombia from hosting future championship fights. That would be most unfortunate for Bassa, who became the sixth Colombian to win a world championship, following Antonio Cervantes, Rocky Valdez, Ricardo and Prudencio Cardona and Miguel "Happy" Lora, the present WBC bantamweight king.

Local bantamweight Elvis Alvarez gained a split, 10-round decision win over Venezuela's Israel Contres.

A scheduled eight-round flyweight encounter ended at the halfway mark when Barranquilla's Alberto Mercado stopped Monteria's Jorge Lugo in four.

Colombian Agustion "Baby" Garcia scored a five-round knockout of Venezuelan Jose Castillo in a junior flyweight scrap.

Barranquilla lightweight Rafael Pineda ended his match with Monteria's Jesus Espitia in the opening round.

Costa Rican junior middlewieght Alberto Lindo was halted in four by Tomas Molinares.

Televison—Telecaribe/RCN.

Attendance—6,000.
(2-13-87)

LUIS A. GONZALEZ

AYERS-SANTANA
NABF Welterweight Title

LAS VEGAS, NEV.—TOMMY Ayers' explosive fists produced a spectacular knockout on his most recent trip to Las Vegas, placing Ayers on a coveted crash course with Mark Breland.

The 23-year-old Cincinnatian did it the hard way when he rebounded from a first-round knockdown to take Luis Santana's NABF welterweight crown with a fourth-round TKO in Top Rank's ESPN main event slated for 12 rounds at the Showboat Hotel-Casino.

Ayers lifted his record to 33-1 with 27 knockouts when he caught Santana with a fourth-round volley of 26 punches, 11 of which were unanswered. Ayers, who narrowly avoided being stopped in the opening three minutes, dropped Santana with a left-right to the jaw, then poured on the heat with a barrage to the head that prompted referee Jay Nady to terminate the action at 2:49.

At ringside was Lou Duva, who trains Breland, the WBA's 147-pound champion, and Breland's manager, Shelley Finkel. They agreed, "Ayers could be our next challenger in September." Breland is recovering from an operation on his right hand, and Buddy LaRosa, who pilots Ayers, indicated his charge would continue fighting, probably taking a bout in May while waiting for a title shot to develop.

"Naturally, we're anxious to meet Breland, and Tommy keeps proving he deserves the shot," said LaRosa. "But even as the challenger, we want the money and other conditions to be reasonable."

Ayers, 146¼, displayed his class, heart and style early in the first round when Santana, 146, hurt him with a right to the body and left to the head. Conditioned by Jimmy Montoya, the 28-year-old Santana drove Ayers to the ropes with a left-right, then fired no less than 20 punches as the Ohio boxer used all his guile to slip some of the shots and remain erect.

As the action moved to mid-ring, Santana dropped Ayers on his right side with an arching right to the head. Ayers was up at eight and nodded his head to let Nagy know he was okay. Santana rushed in to finish the job with another salvo, but the bell abbreviated the attack.

Ayers, ranked fifth in *The Ring* compared to Santana's No. 8 ranking, began to turn the fight around in the second round, shaking Santana with uppercuts to the head and body. Santana was hurt early in the third by a right, and Ayers began to outscore the NABF champion by a 2-1 ration. Ayers continued to double up on his hooks and jabs early in the fourth round and began to move the durable Santana around the ring with an unanswered volley of uppercuts to the body and jaw.

Santana, with a bad bruise under his left eye, tried to find refuge in a neutral corner, but the radar-punching Ayers wasn't about to let his man off the hook. Ayers caught Santana rushing in with a picture-book right to the jaw, dropping the transplanted Dominican on his right side. Sitting up, Santana, who now resides in Los Angeles, shook his head and looked at his corner. Up at eight, Santana couldn't check Ayers' assault, taking a series of solid left-rights to the head without a counter. Nagy then halted the action, though Santana was still on his feet.

The crowd voiced its disapproval and Montoya leaped into the ring, screaming at the official. Later, he said he didn't "think the ending was fair since Nady didn't stop the bout when Santana had Ayers hurt in the first round."

Nady explained his actions succinctly, saying, "Ayers wasn't hurt in the first round. Santana was hurt in the fourth round."

Ayers, down for only the second time in his six-year pro

career, said the first round was a matter of pride.

"I wasn't hurt, but I was embarrassed," said Ayers. "I wasn't really loose, and I didn't listen to my corner. They told me to use the jab and stay off the ropes. I didn't do either. I went back to my corner and Buddy said, 'What are you doing?' I had no business getting knocked down if I listened to my corner."

LaRosa cited Ayers' fine conditioning in surviving Santana's early explosion.

"I knew he was in good shape, and Tommy has a fighter's true heart," said LaRosa. "I knew he would come back because he really wasn't hurt in that first round, just a little shook up."

Santana's ledger dipped to 29-5-1 with 23 knockouts.

In a scheduled 10-round featherweight semi-windup, Jeff Franklin, 127, scored a TKO victory over Adam Garcia, 128, when the latter was unable to answer the bell for the fifth round. Franklin, of Las Vegas, is 15-2-1 with six KOs, while Garcia, of El Mirage, Arizona, is 15-7-1 with 10 KOs.

Akeem Anifowshe, 116, posted a TKO win over David Naterera, 119, at 1:25 of the third round. Anifowshe is from Vegas, Naterera from Yuma, Arizona.

Long Beach, California's Angel Pedroza, 139½, stopped Chicago's Floyd Smith, 138½, at 2:28 of the first round.

David Enroth of Las Vegas recorded a four-round, roughhouse decision over Collin Crews of Los Angeles. Each weighed 174. (3-5-87)

JACK WELSH

NELSON-GUTIERREZ
WBC Featherweight Title

LAS VEGAS, Nev.—IF THERE was a scene-stealer the last time the Las Vegas Hilton presented a world-class boxing production, it had to be a mighty mite named Azumah Nelson.

Nelson displayed with lethal authority why he is the WBC featherweight champion. In fact, the 28-year-old African from Ghana just might be the best fighter pound-for-pound in any division.

Nelson scored a chilling, six-round knockout of Mexico's Mauro Gutierrez before 13,851, most of whom were waiting for Mike Tyson and "Bonecrusher" Smith to unify the WBA and WBC heavyweight crowns.

Weighing 124½ for his fifth title defense, Nelson didn't have any easy time with the WBC's No. 9 contender, especially in the fifth round when the 23-year-old Gutierrez trapped him in a neutral corner with a four-punch salvo to the head.

But in the sixth, Nelson hurt Gutierrez with two rights and a booming left hook to the head. The Mexican, 126, dropped flat on his back in his own corner. Shaking his head, Gutierrez grasped the middle rope strand, but was unable to right himself as referee Davey Pearl tolled 10 only 33 seconds into the round.

The power-punching Nelson improved his credentials to 25-1 with 15 KOs, his lone loss coming in 1982 when he was stopped in the fifth round in a bid to capture the WBC title held by the late Salvador Sanchez. Nelson gained the crown in 1984 with an 11th-round KO of Wilfredo Gomez. Gutierrez, a replacement for Mexico's Marcos Villasana, dropped to 30-5-4 with 20 KOs. Villasana, the WBC's top contender, injured the knuckles on his left hand while training.

Gutierrez, making his American debut, won the opening round with a series of solid combinations. But Nelson began to take command late in the second with jabs that had the challenger backing up. The fourth could have been even on any scorecard as the Mexican dug to the head and body, while Nelson countered with effective jabs. They traded heavily at the bell, with the champion giving Gutierrez a "good effort" tap on the shoulder before heading to his corner.

Muhammad Ali and his entourage showed up during the fifth round and, judging by the crowd's thunderous ovation, not too many saw the Latin win that session.

With worthy challengers and good paydays rare in his division, Nelson would like to move up to challenge WBA lightweight champion Edwin Rosario of San Juan. Rosario preceeded Nelson in a 10-round, non-title bout against Buffalo's mismatched Roger Brown. The 23-year-old Rosario warmed up for three minutes, then jabbed Brown silly before scoring with a classic overhand right to the jaw. The New Yorker dropped flat on his back and never moved as referee Joey Curtis reached the count of 10 at 36 seconds of the second round.

It was practically a gratis workout since Rosario, who scored his 22nd KO in his 26-2 record, received only $7,500 for this tuneup for his May title defense against Juan Nazario in San Juan.

"Rosario keeps saying he's the best fighter, pound-for-pound, in the world," said Nelson, who earned $75,000. "Well, I think I'm the best, so let's see who's right."

BIGGS-BEY

Tyrell Biggs looked anything but a prime-time heavyweight contender in lucking out against veteran David Bey on the undercard.

Biggs had to come from behind to gain a six-round TKO in a battle of Philadelphians. He also finished with a severe gash over his left eye that required 25 stiches and an enforced vacation until midsummer. The wound ruined any chance the 23-year-old Biggs had of becoming the next challenger to Mike Tyson. Until the cut and apprentice effort, Biggs loomed the likely choice to be rushed into a May 30 title bout with Tyson in the Hilton's outdoor arena.

The 1984 Olympic super heavyweight champion weighed 224 in upping his record to 14-0 with nine KOs. But his unbeaten status was badly tarnished by the 29-year-old Bey, who was surprisingly aggressive and effective despite his 239-pound impost. Biggs was losing control when he picked up the slice from two of Bey's chopping rights late in the fourth round. Bey continued to bear in on Biggs, scoring well to the body and head with an unorthodox assortment.

The cut worsened in the fifth as Bey, trying to regain his status as a contender after losses to "Bonecrusher" Smith and Joe Bugner, continued to back up Biggs with effective infighting.

Referee Richard Steele later admitted, "There were several times when I was on the verge of stopping it because Biggs' cut kept opening up."

Bey opened the sixth with three rights to the head, then reeled off a solid five-punch combination as Biggs' blood left his trunks stained in red. Seeing his future in dire jeopardy, the former Olympian suddenly uncorked a lightning spray of six punches to Bey's head. Already tiring from his heavy punching, Bey's head dipped and he couldn't get his gloves up. Another combination sent Bey spinning into the ropes and he touched the canvas with one knee.

Bey halted Steele's count by rising at eight, but Biggs rushed in with three rights and two lefts. Bey caught another left-right-left, prompting Steele to call a halt when Bey lurched into the ropes with his hands down at 2:18.

Bey suffered his fourth loss in five fights since he was stopped in the 10th round of an unsuccessful bid for Larry Holmes' IBF heavyweight title. His record stands 15-5 with 11 knockouts.

Meanwhile, former WBC champion Pinklon Thomas strengthened his position as the WBC's No. 1 contender with a seven-round TKO of overmatched Danny Sutton. Thomas had to chase his rival most of the way until Steele gave Sutton a reprieve at 2:54. Thomas, of Michigan, recorded the 24th KO

in his 29-1-1 record. Sutton, of Spartanburg, N.C., fell to 24-11 with 19 KOs.

Horace Shufford, 148, boosted his ledger to 30-3 with seven KOs, scoring an easy, 10-round decision over Anthony Bryant, 146. Shufford is from Las Vegas, while Bryant, who fell to 9-12-1 with three KOs, hails from Nashville.

Dave Brooks, a 210-pounder from Phoenix, survived an early knockdown to score a TKO over French Lick, Indiana's Lumberjack Royer, 206, at 1:34 of the second round of their scheduled six.

Angel Pedroza, 143-pounder from Phoenix, moved to 4-0 when he knocked out Jesus Mata at 2:20 of the first round in a scheduled four. Pedroza is from Phoenix, Mata from Yuma. (3-7-87)

JACK WELSH

ESPARRAGOZA-CRUZ
WBA Featherweight Title

FORT WORTH, TEXAS—Steve Cruz won the WBA featherweight championship from Barry McGuigan in what was *The Ring's* "Fight of the Year" in 1986.

Cruz lost his title to Antonio Esparragoza in what surely will be a candidate for "Fight of the Year" honors in 1987.

Making his first defense before his hometown fans in the Will Rogers Coliseum, the 23-year-old put up a gallant battle to retain his championship. But it wasn't enough as the Venezuelan challenger fought just as hard, eventually scoring a TKO in the 12th round.

The 26-year-old Esparragoza, whose record stands 25-1-3, lost a point for low blows in the ninth round, but still led on all cards at the time of the stoppage, Canada's Guy Jutras giving him the biggest spread, 107-102, while Panama's Marcos Torres, 106-104, and Japan's Masakazu Uchida, 105-104, had the scheduled 15-rounder still up for grabs after 11 furious sessions.

But Cruz, who fell to 27-2, the previous loss being a first-round knockout to Lenny Valdez almost exactly three years previous, was in trouble at the start of the fatal 12th. The champion's face was bruised and both eyes were swollen severely. Referee Ismael Fernandez of Puerto Rico stopped action shortly after the 12th began, calling on the ringside doctor to inspect the battered champion. Cruz was permitted to continue and, in a kamikaze bid to keep his championship, went toe-to-toe with Esparragoza.

As they traded, Esparragoza connected with a thundering left hook that put Cruz on his back. The champion beat the count, but Esparragoza was not to be denied. A barrage of punches sent Cruz to the canvas in a heap just as Fernandez stepped in to halt the action at 2:28.

Though Cruz trailed at the finish, Esparragoza did not escape unscathed. The challenger had Cruz in trouble in both the third and fourth rounds, but Cruz rallied in the fifth, landing stiff counters and bringing blood from Esparragoza's nose and a cut under the challenger's right eye. But Cruz had an ugly lump under his right eye, and his left eye was beginning to swell, too.

Still, Cruz continued to fight well in the middle sessions, scoring often with the jab and compact counters as Esparragoza fired wide shots. In the 10th, however, Cruz began to show the wear and tear of Esparragoza's relentless pressure, and the challenger began walking through Cruz' efforts, wearing the champion down.

After, Esparragoza indicated he would like to meet WBC champion Azumah Nelson of Ghana. Another future opponent is McGuigan, but the former champion may return as a junior lightweight, if at all. A third option, if the WBA would grant permission, is a rematch with Cruz. Certainly, few fans would object.
(3-6-87)

GALAXY-PICAL
WBA Jr. Bantamweight Title

JAKARTA, INDONESIA—WBA junior bantamweight kingpin Kaosai Galaxy responded to the challenge of IBF champion Ellyas "Elly" Pical, finishing the Indonesian national hero with a solid body shot in the 14th round.

Galaxy and Pical, each weighing 115 pounds and each fighting from the southpaw stance, were expected to put on a terrific, give-and-take battle. But the Thai showed his superiority in a somewhat lopsided contest.

The 26-year-old Pical is the first world champion from Indonesia, and 30,000 partisan spectators were in attendance at Senayan Football Stadium to watch his bid for Galaxy's piece of the title. But the 27-year-old Galaxy proved too much, posting the 27th knockout in his 30-1 record.

Pical scored with a wicked left cross in the first round, but that may have been the only round won by the Indonesian. By the end of the fourth, Pical had become wary of Galaxy's power and began retreating to avoid mixing it up. From the sixth to the ninth, Galaxy had a clear edge as Pical attempted in vain to counter with uppercuts. Galaxy attacked Pical's body in the 10th and by the end of the 11th Pical was bleeding from the nose and mouth.

Though the WBA officials were neutral, Galaxy may have been afraid of a hometown decision. His attacks became more furious and in the 14th Pical was examined by an Indonesian ring doctor, who appeared to treat his cuts rather than just examine them. As the fight resumed, Galaxy came boring in, nailing Pical with a dozen solid, accurate punches. Japanese referee Ken Morita issued a standing eight count.

Pical appeared to have lost some of his fighting spirit, but went on reluctantly. Galaxy kept him in a corner and exploded a wicked left uppercut to the liver just as Morita was set to call a halt. Pical collapsed for several minutes.

Galaxy, retaining his title by knockout for the fifth straight time, received $150,000 for his effort, matching Pical's purse. Promoter Kurnia Kartamuhari looked very disappointed by Pical's defeat, the Indonesian's third against 14 victories.

Galaxy was well ahead on all cards, Larry Rozadilla of the United States scoring 128-121, Japan's Takeshi Shimakawa calling it 129-123 and Korea's Young-Soo Chung seeing it 129-125.

Pol Tiglao, Galaxy's manager, indicated the WBA champion's next defense would be against ex-WBA flyweight champ Santos Laciar of Argentina.

On the undercard, Noce Lukman used good footwork to score a unanimous, 10-round decision over Filipino junior lightweight champ Lule Villaverde. Lukman weighed 127 to Villaverde's 127¾.

Indonesia lightweight champion Bongguk Kindy, 138¼, banged out Filipino Boy Romelo, 139¼, in the sixth of a scheduled eight.

Erick Chavez, a Filipino rated ninth by the IBF, flattened Indonesian junior flyweight champ Udin in the fifth session of a scheduled eight. Chavez weighed 106, two pounds more than Udin.

Indonesian bantamweight contender Yossy Amnifu, 114¾, fought an eight-round draw with Joseph Ladipe, 116¼.

Slick-punching Marthen Kasangke, Indonesia's third-ranked featherweight contender, gave a lesson to wild-swinging Burt Pucay in eight. Kasangke weighed 124, Pucay 123¼. (2-28-87)

JOE KOIZUMI

ROMAN-CEDENO
WBC Super Flyweight Title

MEXICALI, MEXICO—Floored in the second round and cut in the fourth, Mexico's Gilberto Roman made the sixth successful defense of his WBC super flyweight crown with a unanimous 12-round decision over Frank Cedeno of the Philippines.

Roman was making his first defense in Mexico and didn't disappoint his hometown fans, improving his record to 38-2. Despite the efforts of Cedeno, a former WBC flyweight champion who slipped to 57-5-4, Roman won

convincingly, the judges scoring 118-107, 118-108 and 117-108.

Cedeno, who won the WBC flyweight crown from Charlie Magri in 1983, used his southpaw stance to good advantage, catching Roman with a sharp left to the forehead with 30 seconds left in the second round. Roman went down, but was up quickly and boxed his way to the bell without further mishap.

Roman was cut over the left eye in the fourth, but the ringside doctor permitted him to continue. Referee Marty Denkin of Los Angeles penalized Cedeno a point for butting.

The blood ran into Roman's eye in the fifth and sixth, and the champion seemed distracted, but his combinations enabled him to take control. By the closing rounds, Cedeno's right eye was swollen and Roman scored heavily in the final two frames. Cedeno, however, was never in danger of going down.
(3-19-87)

YUH-TUNON
WBA Jr. Flyweight Title

SEOUL, KOREA—MYUNG-Woo Yuh found it unexpectedly easy to dispose of Panamian challenger Eduardo Tunon, keeping his WBA junior flyweight championship with a one-round knockout.

Yuh, making the fourth defense of the title he captured from Joey Olivo in 1985, made $80,000 for the 166-second effort that kept him undefeated at 23-0 with six knockouts. Tunon, 12-2 with five knockouts, earned $10,000.

Tunon at 107¾ a half-pound heavier than the Korean champion, appeared to be a formidable opponent. The tall boxer held his guard tight and scored with a good jab as the scheduled 15-rounder began. But with two minutes gone, Yuh caught Tunon on the button with a left hook followed by a right cross, and the 22-year-old challenger collapsed with a thud.

It didn't appear Tunon would regain his feet, but he beat the count of South African referee Stanley Christodoulou. Yuh was on him immediately, scoring a barrage of accurate blows and Christodoulou didn't show any hesitation in stopping the contest at 2:46.

"I myself am surprised at this one-round knockout," admitted the 23-year-old Yuh. "I know his weak point was the chin. He left it open, and I got to him at the first chance."

Trainer Enrique Candon, speaking for his fallen gladiator, said, "Yuh was a much better champion than we expected. We will make a comeback."

Promoter—Dong-A Promotions.
Television—MBS TV.
WBA Witness—Julio Castillo.
Judges—Caesar Ramos, Michael Glienna and Carlos Sucre.
(3-1-87)

JOE KOIZUMI

PENALOSA-SHIN
IBF Flyweight Title

INCHON, KOREA—A PARTISAN crowd watched with gloom as Filipino Dodie Boy Penalosa stopped Hi-Sup Shin in the fifth round to strip Shin of his IBF flyweight championship

The 24-year-old Penalosa held the IBF junior flyweight crown, but was stripped of his title last year when he tried unsuccessfully for Hilario Zapata's WBA flyweight crown. Shin, 22 years old, was the prefight favorite, having scored nine straight knockouts since being KO'd in one by then-WBA flyweight champion Santos Laciar in 1983.

The tall, speedy southpaws exchanged jabs in the first two rounds. Shin, 110¾, appeared in good shape, bobbing and weaving, and won the third with his jab as Penalosa, 111½, missed with his big punches. They fought on even terms in the fourth, each scoring well to the body.

In the fifth, Penalosa missed with a big left and the Korean countered with a left, almost toppling the Filipino. Penalosa regained his balance and suddenly retaliated with a solid left that floored the champion. Shin got to his feet and retreated to the ropes.

Penalosa came forward and swarmed over the fading champ. Almost a dozen punches caught the mark, and Shin went down flat on his back with blood streaming from his nose. Shin rose again, but his eyes were so glassy that Penalosa resumed punching recklessly until American referee Abraham Pacheco declared a halt at 2:10.

Penalosa, son of ex-boxer Carl Penalosa, overcame polio to become a fighter and won the Filipino flyweight championship in his 10th fight. He added the OPBF crown before becoming the IBF's first junior flyweight champion.

Promoter—Kukdong Promotions.
Television—KBS TV.
WBA Witness—James Butibunson.
Judges—Louis Reyes, Thomas Evaresto and Kwan-Soo Yuh.
(2-22-87)

JOE KOIZUMI

WHITAKER-MAYWEATHER
NABF Lightweight Title

NORFOLK, VA.—HERE WAS a fight that had a little taste of everything . . . both Pernell Whitaker and Roger Mayweather were floored, and referee Chris Wollesen almost made it a trifecta when he was inadvertently clocked by Whitaker in Round Two . . . Mayweather almost lost his trunks . . . A title was at stake . . . The fighters fought after the bell ended Round One . . .

And, it was a classic case of a fight that was over in the first round going the full route.

When it ended, Whitaker had won the NABF lightweight championship vacated by IBF champ Greg Haugen. The unanimous, 12-round decision was, indeed, a sweet victory for the Norfolk hero, who graduated with honors in nearly every facet of his grooming. The lad from Lou Duva's stable was slick, wise and dominant.

For days before, Duva had been bellowing (how else does Duva vocalize?) how Mayweather would be Whitaker's toughest opponent, amateur or pro. Whitaker promised if he had to go 12 rounds, he'd look good doing it. That he did as Duva had his charge well prepared.

Mayweather, of Grand Rapids, Michigan, followed the age-old theory that right-hand leads are effective against southpaws. It worked—for the first two minutes—until Whitaker turned the tables and brought home his own left cross to convincingly deposit Mayweather on the deck. "The Black Mamba" managed to survive a later assault but, dazed and confused, the visitor needed trainer Jesse Reid's physical direction to return to the proper corner at the bell.

From then on, it was a reluctant, fearful, drained, overly concerned (take your pick) Mayweather who looked to just load up occasionally with the right hand. When he did let it fly, it barely flapped its wings. This box(er) of snap, crackle and pop had already gone stale. His heart kept him up, but the rest of his body was letting him down, later to be joined by his wardrobe.

By Round Five, Reid sensed it was over.

"He had no zip, no concentration," Reid said later.

Probably out of frustration, Reid began to berate his fighter during Round Eight,

saying, "You gonna' just play pitty-pat? Three months (of training), show me something! Dig down and reach! Set those feet and pop!"

Reid got at least one coat of wax through the surface as Mayweather won that round on two cards. But going into the eighth, Whitaker, who won six of the first seven rounds on all three cards, had an eight-point lead on one card and five-point leads on the two others. It appeared to be smooth sailing for "Sweetpea," who had negated his foe's reach advantage by working inside as blueprinted. He was able to slip or catch most of the right-hand leads and gave his adversary all kinds of different looks.

But Whitaker's success led him to grow cocky.

"I'm an entertainer," he told the press after the fight.

Entertaining almost got him deep-sixed, and that would have been explosive news in nearby Newport naval circles. The near sinking came in the ninth when he played comic to poor Mayweather's straight man in trying to remove Mayweather's already precariously positioned pair of trunks. The referee gave Mayweather a reprieve from his embarrassment, but the hometowners loved the below-the-line maneuver.

It didn't sit too well with Mayweather, though. Within seconds after Mayweather had his trunks taped up, Whitaker was torpedoed to all fours by a right hand. A bit tired, and somewhat stunned, Whitaker clutched Mayweather's legs on the way down, but he managed to collect himself enough to grab and flutter his way to clarity, actually finishing the round on top. The scoring gave Mayweather one 10-8, but the other cards read just 10-9.

Rounds 10 and 11 proved to be tension-filled and action-packed, Mayweather taking the 10th, Whitaker the 11th. Both came out hard for the final three minutes, but matters ground to a near halt as Whitaker, assured of a win, played it safe, and Mayweather just couldn't keep up the chase for one last strike.

The scores: Jim Traylor, 116-110; John Witt, 117-111; Dave Moretti, 116-112. *The Ring* card read 116-111.

The excuses offered by Mayweather and his staff were written even before Johann Gutenberg invented his printing press. Chief among them was Mayweather's difficulty in making 135 pounds. Whose responsibility was that, anyway? Whitaker, at 134½, was ready. Was a supposedly smart bettor such as Mayweather's manager, Billy Baxter, ready to lose $120,000 on his man?

Regardless, Mayweather had little negative to say about his conqueror, admitting, "No question he won the fight. He did what he had to do to win."

Whitaker, a student who knows the learning process and applies the schooling accordingly, can do what's needed. He may be a class clown at times, but don't forget, in 1984 he was also voted most likely to succeed.

Floyd Favors of Capitol Heights, Maryland, won a no-knockdown, 10-round, unanimous decision over Washington, D.C.'s Rodney Fennell. It was a rather sluggish affair, two cards reading 97-95, the third, 96-94. Favors weighed 130, a pound less than Fennell.

Ricky Stoner, 144½, of Galena Park, Texas, barely survived the last round to take a solid-action, eight-round, unanimous decision over Brooklyn's Anthony Andrews, 143½. Scores: 78-74; 78-75; 79-73.

Jackson, Tennessee's Kenneth Kidd won a six-round, majority decision over Washington, D.C.'s Larry Pringle. It was officially announced as a majority verdict, but the scoring of 58-56 twice for Kidd and 58-57 for Pringle would indicate a split call. Each weighed 136¼.

In a scheduled four, Willie Taylor of Falls Church, Virginia, won by TKO at 2:41 of the third over Baltimore's Calvin Hardy. Hardy, who matched Taylor's weight of 140¾, was down once in Round Three.

Prelim Judges—Kim Traylor, John Witt, Oscar Bryan and Earnie Green.

Promoter—Main Events/Monitor.

Site—Scope Arena.

Referees—Earnie Green and John Witt.

Attendance—6,603.

Gross—$93,000.

(3-28-87)

JACK OBERMAYER

SEABROOKS-CURTIS
USBA Bantamweight Title

ALEXANDRIA, VA.—Maybe there should be an award for "Best Obscure Fight" just for the likes of Kelvin Seabrooks' incredible victory over Louis "Heidi" Curtis.

In the shadow of Hagler—Leonard (and with Sugar Ray in attendance), the 12-round Armageddon took place before some 2,000 frenzied fans in the George Washington High School gym, off TV at 11 o'clock on a Sunday night.

The combatants weren't well-known, either. Though unbeaten local favorite Curtis, of Washington, D.C., was an Olympian, it was in 1976. He took nearly a decade to turn ppro! And the Charlotte, North Carolina journeyman Seabrooks had done nearly all of his fighting on the road, losing a third of his bouts but hanging in there when most would have given up in discouragement.

The action started at a furious pace, then heated up! His vast amateur experience in evidence, Curtis inched forward, hands held high, elbows tight to sides, drawing hostile fire which he picked off, then countered with smart combinations. It nearly worked as Seabrooks suffered a flash knockdown in the second and quickly fell behind.

Seabrooks' response was to unleash a blizzard of punches Curtis couldn't have escaped in his dressing room. Curtis had to give up trying to control the pace and fight for his life as the two simply tried to outgun each other.

By the middle rounds, the action had become indescribable, if not unbelievable. Imagine two continuous combinations interrupted only by the rest periods. Even the gloves couldn't take it, splitting in the seventh round. Both pairs had to be changed, the fighters switching to eight-ounce mitts as no more six-ouncers were available. Following the delay, the two battled as if they had to make up for lost time.

Though Curtis was less than two pounds lighter, 116½ to 118, Seabrooks looked a division bigger, and the difference told. Curtis tried desperately to rally in the late rounds and jolted Seabrooks several times. But even though he landed enough punches to win most rounds (even most fights!), Curtis couldn't match the volume of Seabrooks. By the 12th, the fighters had all but disappeared in a blur of flying leather, with Seabrooks pinning Curtis on the ropes for a strong finish.

Curtis' ecstatic fans thought he'd won and crowded ringside eager to shake his hand. But the worried fighter, his face covered with bruises and welts, kept asking, "Do you think I pulled it out?"

The judges, who had plenty of opportunity to pull a homer, provided Curtis with the answer, scoring unanimously for Seabrooks. Julian Whitestone had it 116-111, Jim Traylor, 114-113, and Ed Moran, 117-111.

Washington, D.C.'s William Johnson, 127, TKO'd Baltimore's Donnie Parker, 128, at 1:50 of the seventh of a scheduled 10. Parker took a lathering, but hung tough in a blistering battle until he was nailed by a sharp right and crumpled onto his face.

Antonioi DeBarros of Cape Verdes Island easily destroyed a weakened Billy Barnes of Washington, D.C. in a scheduled six. Barnes, 130, was down twice as DeBarros, 133, scored a TKO in 1:16.

Montgomery County, Maryland's Troy Jackson, 155, dished out a unanimous beating to Baltimore's game Tim Davis, 156, in a rugged six.

Darrin Morris, formerly of Washington, D.C. but now fighting out of Detroit, and D.C.'s George Greenhow battled to a draw in a hard-fought, see-saw four. Morris weighed 147, Greenhow, 146.

D.C. southpaw Bill Davis, 160, battered Baltimore's stubborn Dave Seawell, 157, early, then withstood a charge to win a unanimous, four-round decision. Davis scored a flash knockdown in the second.

Montgomery City's Han "Sugar" Kim, 140, appeared lucky to get a split verdict over Baltimore's William Reid, 138, in a sloppy, but action-packed four.

Promoter—Monumental Productions.

Matchmaker—Amin Muslim.

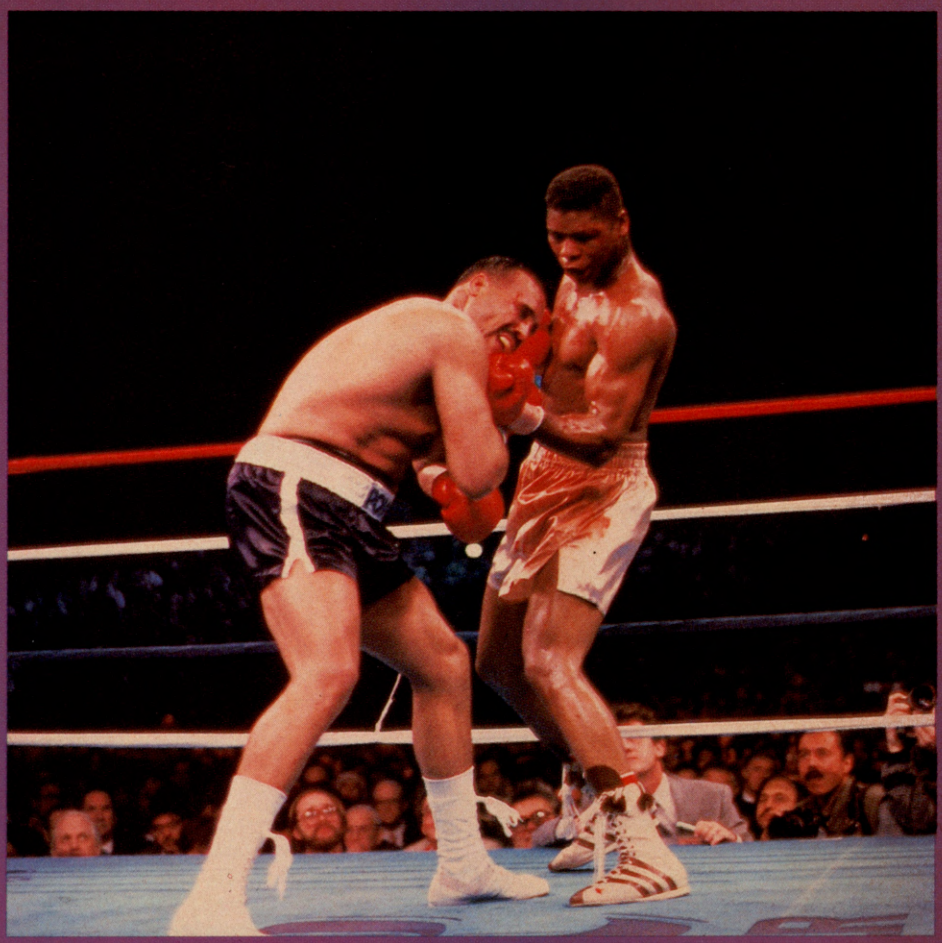
Additional Judge/Timekeeper—Manny Favin.

Referees—Al Rothenberg, Art Levy and Chris Wollesen.

(3-1-87)

J.R. JOWETT

BACK FROM THE BRINK



Behind on points and bleeding from a gash over his left eye, Tyrell Biggs (white trunks) rallied to kayo David Bey in the sixth round of their heavyweight thriller in Las Vegas.

photos by
Will Hart

HEAVYWEIGHTS
(No Weight Limit)
WORLD CHAMPION

MICHAEL SPINKS ..... St. Louis, Mo.
1. **Mike Tyson** ..... Catskill, N.Y.
2. **Pinklon Thomas** ..... Wyandotte, Mich.
3. **James Smith** ..... Magnolia, N.C.
4. **Tim Witherspoon** ..... Philadelphia, Pa.
5. **Evander Holyfield** ..... Atlanta, Ga.
6. **Tyrell Biggs** ..... Philadelphia, Pa.
7. **Trevor Berbick** ..... Canada
8. **James Douglas** ..... Columbus, Ohio
9. **Tony Tucker** ..... Grand Rapids, Mich.
10. **Bert Cooper** ..... Philadelphia

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
(Not Over 175 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION
TITLE VACANT

1. **Marvin Johnson** ..... Indianapolis, Ind.
2. **Bobby Czyz** ..... Wanaque, N.J.
3. **Thomas Hearns** ..... Detroit, Mich.
4. **Dennis Andries** ..... England
5. **Eddie Davis** ..... Freeport, N.Y.
6. **Leslie Stewart** ..... Trinidad
7. **Virgil Hill** ..... Grand Forks, N.D.
8. **Slobodan Kacar** ..... Yugoslavia
9. **Chong-Pal Park** ..... Korea
10. **Willie Edwards** ..... Detroit, Mich.

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
(Not Over 160 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

MARVIN HAGLER ..... Brockton, Mass.
1. **Herol Graham** ..... England
2. **Iran Barkley** ..... Bronx, N.Y.
3. **Michael Olajide** ..... Canada
4. **Robbie Sims** ..... Brockton, Mass.
5. **Mike McCallum** ..... New York, N.Y.
6. **Donald Curry** ..... Ft. Worth, Texas
7. **Michael Nunn** ..... Sherman Oaks, Calif.
8. **Frank Tate** ..... Houston, Texas
9. **Milton McCrory** ..... Detroit, Mich.
10. **Duane Thomas** ..... Detroit, Mich.

WELTERWEIGHTS
(Not Over 147 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

LLOYD HONEYGHAN ..... England
1. **Mark Breland** ..... Brooklyn, N.Y.
2. **Maurice Blocker** ..... Washington, D.C.
3. **Marlon Starling** ..... Hartford, Conn.
4. **Tommy Ayers** ..... Cincinnati, Ohio
5. **Simon Brown** ..... Washington, D.C.
6. **Tyrone Trice** ..... Detroit, Mich.
7. **Patrizio Oliva** ..... Italy
8. **Tsuyoshi Hamada** ..... Japan
9. **Frankie Warren** ..... Corpus Christi, Texas
10. **Terry Marsh** ..... England

LIGHTWEIGHTS
(Not Over 135 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION
TITLE VACANT

1. **Hector Camacho** ..... New York, N.Y.
2. **Edwin Rosario** ..... Puerto Rico
3. **Greg Haugen** ..... Auburn, Wash.
4. **Jimmy Paul** ..... Detroit, Mich.
5. **Julio Cesar Chavez** ..... Mexico
6. **Pernell Whitaker** ..... Norfolk, Va.
7. **Terrence Alli** ..... New York, N.Y.
8. **Meldrick Taylor** ..... Philadelphia, Pa.
9. **Frankie Randall** ..... Morristown, Tenn.
10. **Vinny Pazienza** ..... Rhode Island

FEATHERWEIGHTS
(Not Over 126 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

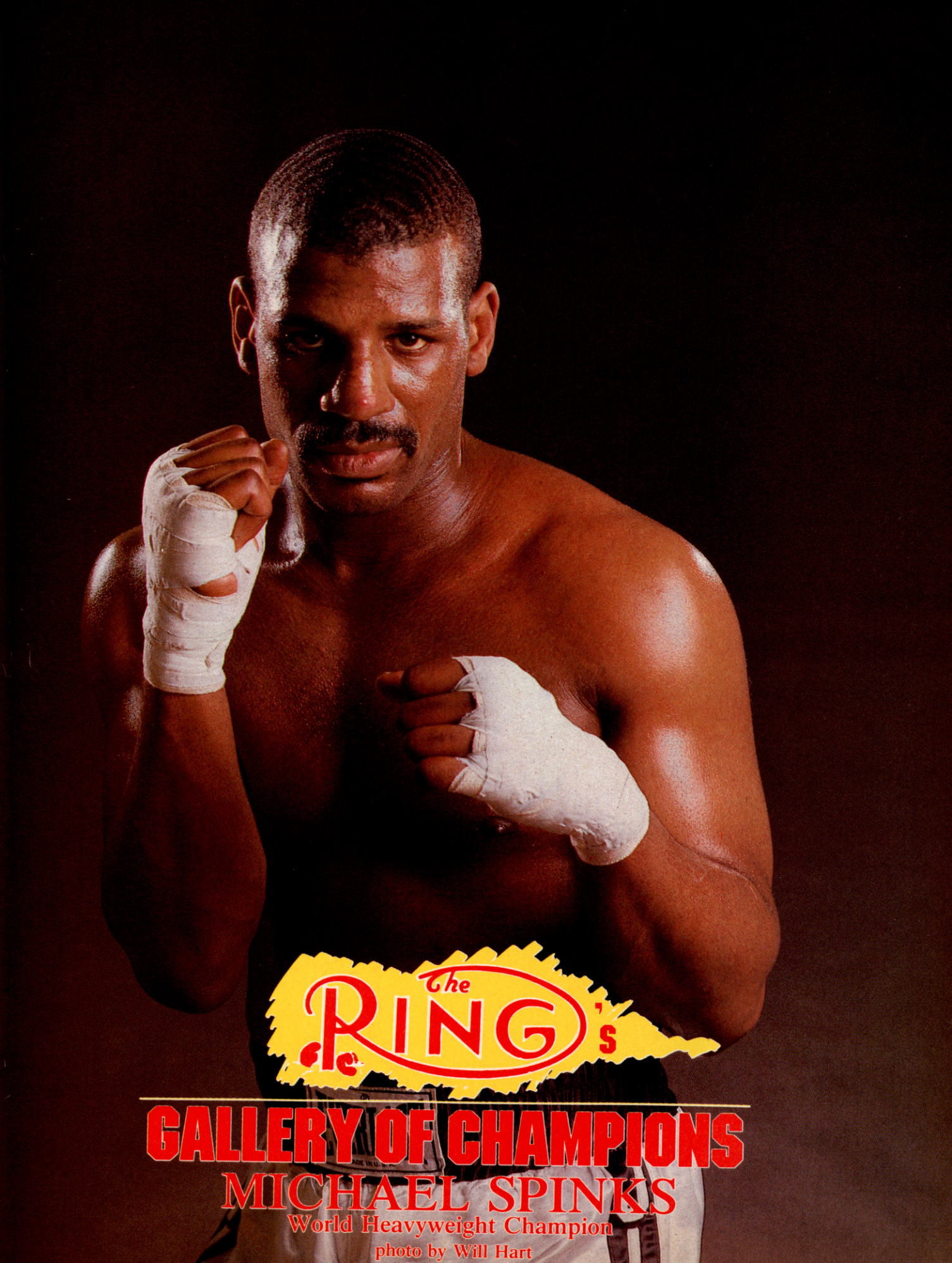
ANTONIO ESPARRAGOZA ..... Venezuela
1. **Azumah Nelson** ..... Ghana
2. **Steve Cruz** ..... Ft. Worth, Texas
3. **Calvin Grove** ..... Pottstown, Pa.
4. **Barry McGuigan** ..... Ireland
5. **Antonio Rivera** ..... Puerto Rico
6. **Samart Payakaroon** ..... Thailand
7. **Louie Espinosa** ..... Phoenix, Arizona
8. **Victor Callejas** ..... Puerto Rico
9. **Bernard Taylor** ..... Knoxville, Tenn.
10. **Marcos Villasana** ..... Mexico

BANTAMWEIGHTS
(Not Over 118 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

TITLE VACANT
1. **Miguel Lora** ..... Colombia
2. **Kaosal Galaxy** ..... Thailand
3. **Gilberto Roman** ..... Mexico
4. **Jiro Watanabe** ..... Japan
5. **Gaby Canizales** ..... Laredo, Texas
6. **Greg Richard** ..... Youngstown, Ohio
7. **Albert Davila** ..... Pomona, Calif.
8. **Kelvin Seabrooks** ..... Charlotte, N.C.
9. **Santos Laciar** ..... Argentina
10. **Frankie Duarte** ..... Los Angeles, Calif.

FLYWEIGHTS
(Not Over 112 Pounds)
WORLD CHAMPION

SOT CHITALADA ..... Thailand
1. **Jung-Koo Chang** ..... Korea
2. **Fidel Bassa** ..... Colombia
3. **Myung-Woo Yuh** ..... Korea
4. **Hilario Zapata** ..... Panama
5. **Dodie Penalosa** ..... Philippines
6. **Paul Gonzales** ..... Los Angeles, Calif.
7. **Gabrial Bernal** ..... Mexico
8. **Benedicto Murillo** ..... Panama
9. **Rodolfo Blanco** ..... Colombia
10. **Raeki Ahn** ..... Korea


The RING's
GALLERY OF CHAMPIONS
MICHAEL SPINKS
World Heavyweight Champion
photo by Will Hart

SPINKS-COONEY:

THE FIGHT THAT REFUSED TO DIE

"THE RELUCTANT CHAMPION MEETS the reluctant challenger?" Or, "The Clash of the Cowards?"

How about "The Fight That Refused To Die?" Court cases, title strippings, drunk driving arrests . . . delay after delay. Still, it appears as if Michael Spinks and Gerry Cooney will finally get it on June 15 in Atlantic City.

And, no matter what you call it, if Spinks and Cooney square off as scheduled, the fight will be called—correctly—a fight for the heavyweight championship of the world.

With all due respect to Mike Tyson, and *The Ring* respects Tyson enough to have named him "Fighter of the Year" for 1986, we live in just one world and that world can have just one world heavyweight champion (See "The Real Champions, Page 10). That champion is Michael Spinks. Even Tyson and his manager Jim Jacobs, both avid boxing historians, are apt to agree.

Cooney, in Florida to begin preparation for Spinks, summed it up, saying, "Michael Spinks is the heavyweight champion. He beat Larry Holmes, who was undefeated."

THE RING PREVIEWS THE BIG FIGHT

by Phill Marder

Spinks, of course, agreed, saying, "I feel I can't lose the title no place other than where I won it, in the ring. I know I'm the real heavyweight champion. Even Mike Tyson's manager said that in court. The public feels the same way, and they've let me know with letters, telegrams and by word of mouth. I feel public support is behind me, and I appreciate *The Ring* standing behind me."

That Spinks lost his IBF title for refusing to meet Tony Tucker is ridiculous. No one, other than the IBF, thinks Tucker should be fighting for the heavyweight crown. And this from the American organization that promised to avoid the insanity perpertrated by the WBA and WBC. Ah, but that's another story.

That Spinks lost his IBF title for refusing to meet Tucker is also good for boxing. The public wants to see Tyson fight Spinks or Cooney—not Holmes, Frank Bruno, Francesco Damiani, Pinklon Thomas or the winner of the Tucker/James Douglas match. If Spinks fights Cooney—and we say if because with Spinks and Cooney you're never sure they'll show up until the first bell—the public will probably gets its wish. The winner meeting Tyson will be a blockbuster.

But the Spinks/Cooney fight itself is a blockbuster, as intriguing a heavyweight title match as we've had in years. No one seems to know what to expect, and for good reason. Make that several good reasons.

Spinks is undefeated, but until three fights ago he was a light heavyweight. In this fight, he'll be facing one of the biggest heavyweights in the world. Will he be able to reach Cooney and does he have enough power to hurt him if he does? Will Spinks be capable of taking Cooney's best shot if the Irishman lands it? How much does Cooney, who will be closing in on 31 at fight time, have left? For that matter, how much did he have in the first place?

Cooney said, "I like fighters to come to me."

Spinks is unlikely to do that—or will he? With Spinks one of the world's most adaptable fighters, one never knows what strategy he will use.

"I'm training for him to be awkward and running," said Cooney. "But I'm working with Victor Valle on a few strategies to be ready for anything."

Anything is exactly what could happen. Anything and everything. With that in mind, a dissection of each fighter's strengths and weaknesses may be an exercise in futility as far as determining the winner. If anything, a close scrutiny seems to raise more questions than it answers. Of course, that's the main reason this fight is such an interesting matchup. The more you look, the more you find.

With that in mind, we offer an analysis of several key categories.

AGE: Spinks will be 31 in July, Cooney hits that number in August. Cooney has been in just one war, the title loss to Holmes five years ago, while Spinks has been in a few, but not enough to call him an "old" fighter. Considering age alone, each should be at the peak of his career.

EXPERIENCE: Cooney and Spinks each turned pro in 1977. While Cooney has been constantly ripped for being inactive and Spinks was generally regarded as a fighting light heavyweight champion, it's interesting to note Spinks has had 30 fights to Cooney's 29. Compare the number of rounds each has fought for a better indicator. Most of Cooney's fights ended quickly, while Spinks has traveled 10 or more rounds many times.

Spinks did fight, for the most part, a better quality of opposition, but those opponents, save Holmes and Steffen Tangstad, were light heavyweights. Still, Spinks has the edge in experience, and that's not even counting his amateur background, which certainly helped him prepare for the pressures of the pros.

As he began workouts for this fight, Cooney told *The Ring*, "The only reason I lost the Larry Holmes' fight was because of my inexperience. I kicked myself in the ass for months after that. I got a helluva lot of experience from that fight. I never got the opportunity to fight him again, and people just remember the loss."

It's hard to remember anything else. Cooney's fought just three times (less than seven rounds) since the Holmes' fight five years ago.

SIZE: Here, Cooney has the obvious advantage, an advantage that may outweigh all others, if you'll pardon the expression. Cooney stands on the long side of 6-6 and has an 82-inch reach. Spinks is 6-2 with a 78-inch reach. Cooney expects to weigh around 232, with Spinks naming 200-205 as his target.

Spinks seemed surprised when told what Cooney expects to weigh.

"That's a lot of man," admitted the champion. "But I'm not going to adjust my weight. I'll come in where I feel good. He'll be carrying a lot more weight, and that could work against him."

It could work for Cooney, too. His reach will make it difficult for Spinks to connect from the outside, and his bulk will make it tough for the champion to move Cooney on the inside.

BOXING ABILITY: Spinks is one of today's most intelligent fighters. He may not always look good, but, so far, he's always figured out a way to win. It's difficult to judge Cooney's ability as a boxer because most of his fights have been one-sided blowouts. Defensively, Spinks, as clever as they come, should have a huge

edge. Then again, evading a light heavyweight or an old Larry Holmes is not the same as ducking the bricks Cooney throws. On Cooney's behalf, taking the punches of Spinks may not be as difficult as absorbing the shots leveled at him by Holmes.

"Mistakes is where I live," said Spinks. "Cooney's very awkward, and it'll be extremely tough getting under his long arms. I'm going to be looking at his films real close. When I study him, I'll figure out what to do, where he suffers the most."

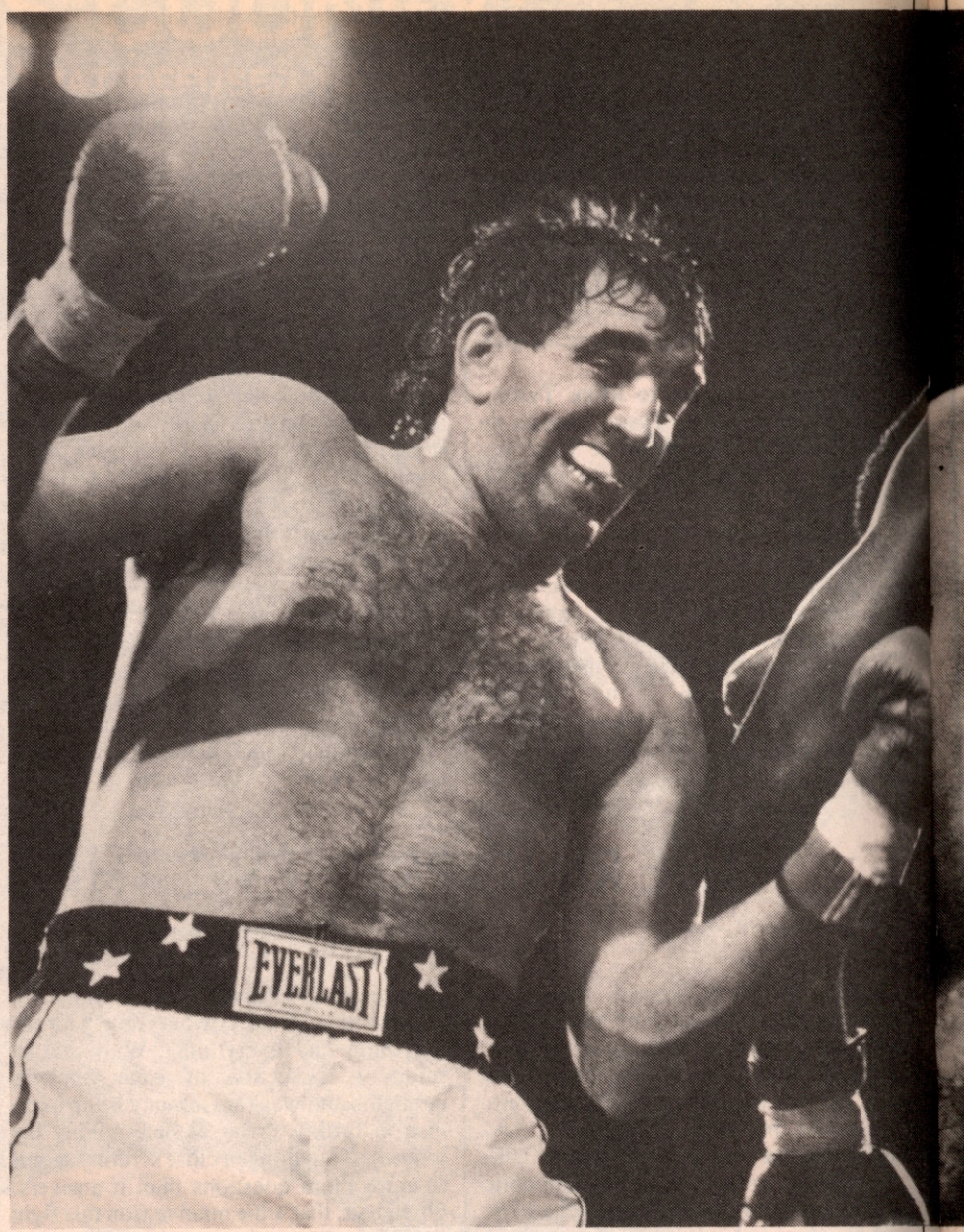
Cooney said, "Spinks is very awkward. But I was getting to Holmes with the jab, and I'm going to work on moving him back with that jab."

PUNCH: Cooney is knocked as a one-punch fighter, but that one punch, the left hook, may be boxing's single most devastating blow. Cooney did score well against Holmes with the jab and used his right more than expected, a trend he continued in the last three fights. Cooney has the range to keep Spinks at bay with the jab. If Cooney hits Spinks with that hook, it'll be interesting to see how Spinks reacts—if he is still upright. Remember, Spinks was hurt several times by the aging Holmes. He's never been nailed by one who punches as hard as Cooney.

It may be forgotten that Spinks hits pretty hard himself, particularly with his right, "The Spinks' Jinx." Holmes had Cooney down twice with overhand rights, Spinks' best weapon. How well Spinks' power has survived his move to heavyweight is still unclear, though. Spinks' jab is good, but may be ineffective due to his disadvantages in reach and height.

Spinks has always been somewhat of a head-hunter, too. A body attack by Spinks would probably have little effect on his challenger. On the other glove, Cooney is a murderous body puncher, capable of breaking Spinks in half with one solid left hook.

SPEED: As noted before, Spinks has always shown the ability to adapt to the situation. One reason for this is his outstanding quickness. Spinks was faster than the average light heavyweight, both on his feet and with his hands, and his added weight doesn't seem to have slowed him that much. Yes, Holmes suddenly appeared old against Spinks, but much of that had to do with Spinks' quickness and awkward movement which made Larry seem to be standing in molasses much of the time.



Will Gerry Cooney be able to land his famous left hook against the elusive target presented by Michael Spinks?

HEART: An intangible and another knock against Cooney. Experts say he's fine as long as the other guy isn't fighting back, pointing to the Holmes' fight as proof that when the going gets tough, Cooney isn't tough enough. That's an unfair rap. Cooney has never shown dog, certainly not in the loss to Holmes. Remember, he had only been eight rounds three times and had fought a total of only 86 rounds before meeting Holmes, who was in his prime at the time. In addition, the temperature in the ring that evening was well over 100 degrees. Still, Cooney survived two early knockdowns to fight into the 13th round, and he was ahead of the world's best heavyweight when stopped. In fact, if you watch the films of that fight closely, you'll see Cooney almost fall over when he rises from his stool at the start of the 13th. He was exhausted, but not counted out. That doesn't sound like a fighter with no heart.

Spinks' heart had never been questioned until the recent flack concerning the HBO Tournament and Mike Tyson. If Spinks had doubts about facing Tyson—and that's a big if—those doubts may have been eased by Tyson's lack of success against "Bonecrusher" Smith.

Will Michael Spinks be able to work the same magic against Gerry Cooney he did against an aging Larry Holmes?

"I've proved myself in the ring," said Spinks. "I don't have to jump into any match in particular because someone says I'm scared of an individual. I've never ducked anybody."

While Cooney is far from greased lightning, he is not the world's slowest moving object on two feet, either. Cooney's size gives him the ability to cut the distance between himself and his opponent, a fact Spinks will have to adjust, and adjust quickly to.

STAMINA: Cooney's stamina has always been questioned. In his only fight over eight rounds, he wilted and eventually collapsed against Holmes. That could happen again if Spinks takes him into the later rounds. The only thing Cooney's done since the Holmes' loss is age, and aging doesn't improve stamina.

However, Cooney said, "I feel terrific. I feel very strong, physically. I've never come into a fight out of shape."

Spinks, though he wheezes and almost chokes to death in many of his fights, has always carried himself well over distances. His recent arrest for drunk driving raises questions over how well he's been taking care of himself, but Cooney has been known to tip a few, too, and Spinks promised, "I'm in good shape. I took the holidays off, but went right back to the gym."

KILLER INSTINCT: No one has questioned Cooney's killer instinct. When he hurts you, he usually finishes you with a flourish.

Spinks has also displayed the ability to polish off an injured foe. Against Holmes, he held back to avoid getting into a slugfest. Against Cooney, he may do the same. Or, he may tear Cooney's head off if the opportunity presents itself.

CUT RESISTANCE: Cooney bled against Holmes, but has not shown a history of being a bad bleeder. Spinks has also been known to cut, but rarely has the damage been threatening. In addition, the styles of the two make it unlikely that a head butt will become a factor.

MOTIVATION: While Cooney's heart may not be questionable, his motivation certainly is suspect. True fighters fight. Cooney talks. Action speaks louder than words. But this is probably Cooney's last chance for the title, so he may have more motivation than Spinks, who wasn't supposed to have the goods to win the championship in the first place.

SUMMARY: Spinks concluded, "Cooney's a threat to my championship and this should be a helluva fight. But I don't think I'll have too much of a problem with him."

Cooney disagreed, and agreed, saying, "I see it going my way. Spinks is very awkward and, in a sense, will be harder to fight than Mike Tyson."

As far as Tyson is concerned, each expressed willingness to meet the WBA and WBC titleholder.

"We would consider the possibility of taking on Tyson, sure," said Spinks.

Cooney commented, "Mike Tyson's a tough kid. He's very good for boxing, but people are making him out to be a superman. He's got a lot of things to learn. He seems to have trouble with tall guys."

Thus, boxing has two major heavyweight title fights to look forward to. When the smoke from this dandy clears, either Cooney or Spinks will reign as heavyweight champion, with Tyson firmly entrenched as No. 1 contender, barring an upset.

Tony Tucker and the rest can wait. □

RINGS AROUND THE WORLD

NORTH AMERICA

UNITED STATES

CALIFORNIA

▶**MARIN—Civic Center**—Andy Nance retained his state junior welterweight title with a ninth-round TKO over hard-nosed challenger Kelly Koble.

Referee Rudy Ortega wisely halted the bruising bout scheduled for 12 rounds when Koble was taking a one-sided drubbing from the 24-year-old Nance.

In line for a world title shot, Nance had to overcome a shaky start before getting close to his form. In the second round, Koble cracked Nance on the jaw with a right hand and, for the first time in his career, Nance hit the canvas. However, Koble wound up losing a point for hitting Nance while he was down. Well-conditioned, but tense, Nance rode out his troubles and began to take control by the fourth round. Koble, 139½, fought bravely, but Nance, 140, took him apart in the center of the ring.

In the fifth, Nance, of San Rafael, lost a point for hitting his San Jose opponent below the belt. Ortega halted the bout until Koble was ready to continue. But Nance had Koble reeling and defenseless in the ninth, and Ortega stepped in when Koble was staggered by two hard shots. Koble's manager, Jeff Grmoja, had jumped onto the ring apron and tossed in the towel just as Ortega took action.

"He was taking too much punishment," Ortega said of Koble, whose record dipped to 12-5-1. "He was tired and could have been seriously hurt."

Nance, who was born in England and still holds citizenship there, raised his record to 24-1-2, but not without a battle and some embarrassment.

"He's a lot tougher than I expected," admitted Nance. "I must say, he could beat a lot of good fighters. My girlfriend comes to see me fight and I get knocked down for the first time!"

Promoter Joe Gagliardi, making his Marin county debut, had a profitable evening, a near capacity crowd of 1,550 leaving a gross of $39,335 despite a heavy rain.

A six-round middleweight bout had Santa Rosa's Mark Cox leveling Oakland's Joe Louis with two right hands to the chin in the second round. Undefeated in six bouts, the 161-pound Cox blew away a game opponent, the end coming at 2:21. Louis, who weighed 159½, slipped to 5-5.

In a scheduled eight-rounder, heavyweight Olien Alexander of San Jose knocked out Tulsa's Lorenzo Boyd at 2:36 of the sixth round. Alexander, 13-1 with 10 knockouts, triumphed against a fighter who was scheduled to face a fellow named George Foreman.

San Rafael junior welter Paul Navo won a six-round decision from Antonio Marquez of Salinas.

San Jose's Jose Rodriguez, 126, and Salinas' George Garcia, 127½, had their scheduled six-rounder stopped at the end of the first, the verdict being a technical draw due to an accidental butt by Rodriguez.

Ringside Physician—Dr. Smith Ketchum.

CHRISTOPHER COATS

FLORIDA

▶**FT. LAUDERDALE—City Limits Lounge**—Woody Clark, 207, scored a 10-round, split decision over Alex Williamson, though the verdict was first announced as a win for the 212-pound Williamson.

Judges Al Wilensky (97-95) and Mark Schechner (96-95) scored for Clark, with Stu Winston calling it 98-93 for Williamson. A mistake on the scorecards created the initial confusion as to the winner.

Clark is from Fayetteville, N.C., with Williamson hailing from Hollywood, Fla.

Hallandale's Mark Kobus, 130¼, remained undefeated in eight bouts, pounding out a unanimous, six-round decision over Tampa's Troy Davis, 130.

Hallandale's 1986 Golden Gloves champion Anthony Logan, 162¼, stopped Ft. Pierce's Bobby Doby, 163, at 1:56 of the fourth round of a scheduled six, referee Jose Arias calling a halt due to Doby's badly cut left eye. Logan is 6-0-1.

Miami's Salim Muhammad, 151, stopped Tampa's Billy Cress, 151¼, at 1:49 of the fourth and final round. Referee Harry Brennan stopped the match due to a cut over Cress' right eye.

Lamont Begood, a 126-pounder from Miami, made his pro debut with a unanimous, four-round decision over Miami's Jose Cabrera, 128.

Arias called a halt after the second round of a scheduled four when Tampa's Casino Santana, 152¼, couldn't continue against Hallandale's Angelo Gray, 151¼. Gray is 7-0-2.

Promoter—Kaufman Promotions, Stu Kaufman.
Television—Madison Square Garden Cable Network.
Attendance—250.
Referees—Harry Brennan (main event), Billy Yohan and Jose Arias.
(1-22-87)

▶**MIAMI—Coconut Grove Exhibition Center**—Miami's Mauricio Rodriguez, 147, scored a fourth-round knockdown and won all 10 rounds from Venezuela's Eduardo Brillones, 148½. Rodriguez is 28-2.

Another scheduled 10 had 127-pound Daniel Blanco of Miami record his 26th win without a loss, a TKO over Mexico's Edgar Muniz at 37 seconds of the seventh round. Muniz suffered a cut over the left eye, causing referee Juan Arias to stop the bout.

Miami's Francisco Martinez, 147, won a six-round, unanimous decision over 148-pound John Sabalo of Key West.

Gary Peters, a Miami heavyweight weighing 198 pounds, needed only 53 seconds to end his scheduled six with Homestead's Nate Spears, who weighed 186.

In another scheduled six, Miami's Robert Daniels, 199, stopped Homestead's Norris Ford, 212, at 1:37 of the first.

Amancio Castro, 141, scored a TKO over Francisco Jiminez, 142, in the fourth round of a scheduled six between Miami residents.

In a scheduled four, Miami's Luis Kid Monzote, 112, TKO'd Homestead's Joe Paul, 113, at 1:25 of the first.

James Johnson, 151, captured a unanimous, four-round decision over Jorge Farinas, 150½. Both hail from Miami.

Miami's Carlos Curet, 136, flattened Mexico's Javier Muniz with one punch, a left hook that landed flush on the chin, knocking Muniz cold in 41 seconds.

The card, a benefit for former great Kid Gavilan, featured an exhibition by Roberto Duran. Duran boxed three rounds, two with Ramon Negron and another with light heavyweight Joe Dolphin.

Promoter—Duran Boxing Corp.
Matchmaker—Luis DeCubis.
Attendance—700 (est.).
Referees—Bill Connors (main event), Juan Arias and Billy Yohan.
(2-28-87)

▶**FT. LAUDERDALE—Holiday Inn West**—Alex Medel of Sunrise scored a four-round TKO over Tampa's Donald Varnado when Varnado couldn't answer the bell for the fourth round of a scheduled eight.

Varnado, at 149 a pound heavier than Medel, took a beating for three rounds as Medel improved his record to 14-2-1.

In a co-featured eight, Homestead's Ivan Gonzalez, 140, made his record 10-0 with a shutout over Jerome Spottsville of Las Vegas. Spottsville weighed 139.

Brooklyn's Steve Frank, 141, scored a TKO at 1:31 of the fifth of a scheduled six over Tampa's Jo Jo Harris, 141, Frank is 7-0.

Miami's Keith Majors, 122, scored knockdowns in the first and fourth en route to a unanimous, four-round decision over West Palm Beach's Armondo Gonzalez, 122.

In the four-round opener, Tampa's Moses Burgess, 137, won a majority decision over West Palm Beach's Darren McGrew, 135.

Promoter—EP Promotions.
Matchmaker—Al Bonanni.
Attendance—650.
Referees—Bernie Soto and Harry Brennan.
(3-6-87)

LOUIS ZIPKIN

HAWAII

▶**HONOLULU—Sheraton Waikiki Hotel**—Waianee's Jesus Salud notched his 22nd win against just one defeat with a lopsided, 10-round decision over Allan Makitoki.

The 23-year-old Salud totally dominated the former world-ranked 24-year-old Philippino, whose record fell to 45-11-2. The scores: 100-89, 110-89, 99-91.

Each fighter weighed 122 pounds.

Honolulu's Larry Benson, 137¾, reversed an earlier defeat by posting a unanimous, eight-round verdict over Philippino Nilo Alamag, 136½. The 27-year-old Benson out-gunned Alamag from the fourth round on to improve his record to 16-7 as the 25-year-old Alamag slipped to 15-4-2.

Scott Phinney, a 24-year-old heavyweight from Maui via Gloucester, Massachusetts, made a successful pro debut with a four-round, unanimous win over Kailua's 26-year-old Eugene Gordon. At 6-3, 213¼ pounds, Phinney appeared strong, but green and had to work to overcome the 5-11, 187½-pound Gordon, who had lost all three of his previous pro starts, the most recent of which came in 1980.

Wahiawa's Carlos Mercano, 149, rallied in the final round to pull out a unanimous, four-round win over Waianae's Chris Ulu, 153. Mercano, 25, improved to 2-1, with the 23-year-old Ulu falling to 5-7-1.

Brad Fleener's first start since 1984 didn't last long as the Honolulu heavyweight was flattened in 15 seconds by John Elacqua of Las Vegas. Elacqua, who weighed 222 to Fleener's 190, put Fleener flat on his face with his first punch, a left jab, to square his mark at 2-2. Fleener is 2-6.

Promoter: T.N.T. Productions, Inc.
Matchmaker: Tad Kawamura.
Attendance: 731 Gross: $10,150.
Judges: Chuck Williams, Abraham Pacheco and Manuel Tolentino.
Timekeepers: Clarence Senarighi and Henry Perreira.
Referees: Herbert Minn and Paul Kelly.
Physicians: Dr. Robert Maehara and Dr. Herbert Nam.
(2-24-87)

ILLINOIS

▶**CHICAGO—DiVinci Manor**—Melrose Park's Louis Lomeli won his 14th without a loss, scoring a TKO in 2:17 over Benton Harbor, Michigan's Sebastian Wilburn.

The 22-year-old Lomeli weighed 135, a pound more than Wilburn, for the scheduled eight-rounder.

Chicago's Oliver McCall, 229, captured a close, but unanimous, six-round decision over Wilmington, North Carolina's Fred Whitaker, 238.

Ann Arbor, Michigan's Mike Johnson, 144, improved to 11-1 with a six-round, unanimous verdict over Springfield's Anthony "Joe" Travis, 151.

Ron Amundsen, 152, used good body shots to stop Sam Matos, 155, at 2:53 of the second of a scheduled six between Chicagoans.

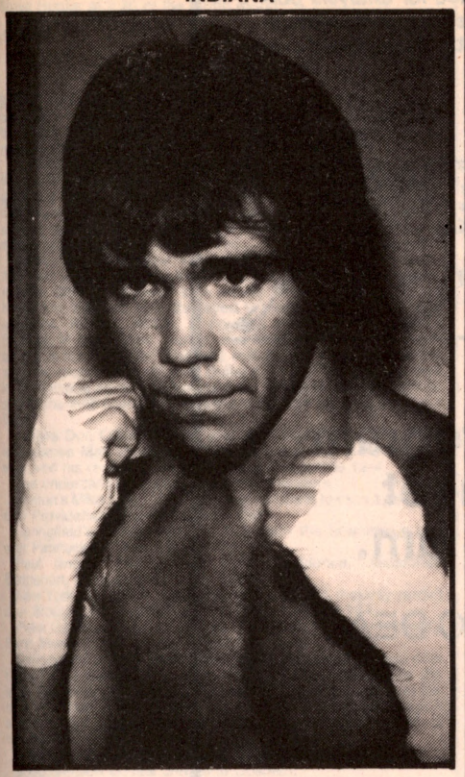
Franklin Park's Jack Carollo, 144, TKO'd Gary, Indiana's John Lark, 145, at 2:57 of the second round.

Chicago's David Davis, 158, made his mark 11-0 with a TKO at 2:35 of the first over crude Kenny Grayson, a 160-pounder from Peoria. The bout was scheduled for four..

Promoter—Cliff Lanas.
Announcer—Ben Bentley.
Physician—Dr. Glenn Bynum.
Referees—Stan Berg and Nate Morgan.
Paramedics—Rich Soso and Elliott Velez.
Timekeeper—Al Tremari.
Judgers—Mike Glienna, Jerry Jakubco and Tim Adams.
Supervisor—Frank Glienna.
Television—Westinghouse TV.
Attendance—301.
(3-21-87)

READ THE RING

INDIANA



Local hero Jack "Ironman" Callahan successfully defended the Indiana State Junior Middleweight title with a 12-round decision over "Schoolboy" Jimmy Baker.

▶**HIGHLAND—Club Dimensions**—Hammond's undefeated junior middleweight Jack Callahan, 154, successfully defended his Indiana state championship with a unanimous, 12-round decison over game Schoolboy Jimmy Baker, 155, of Columbus.

Each fighter was in good shape and fought hard the entire contest, Callahan being more aggressive and landing the sharper punches to clearly win the decision.

The scoring of the judges was John Taylor, 120-112, John Wilson, 119-110, and Gary Merritt, 119-111.

In a real pier-six brawl, New Lisbon's Mike Pollitt, 163, knocked out Indianapolis' Ira Hathway, 158, at 25 seconds of the fourth round.

Gary's Kimmuel Odum, 229¾, stopped Milwaukee's overmatched Stan Johnson, 213, in 1:54.

Bobby "Psycho" Thompson of Chicago halted Ft. Wayne's Bobby Moore at 1:56 of the fourth round. Each weighed 135.

Stan Podgorski, 135, won by TKO when Rick Scarpazi, 145, failed to answer the bell for the fourth round. Each hails from Chicago.

Chicago's Edwin Santana, 152, captured a four-round, majority verdict over Kendallville's Grayson Hanshoe, 156.

Elkhart's Carlos "Norman" Bates, 135, was a six-round decision over Benton Harbor, Michigan's Sebastian Wilburn, 134.

Anthony Pearson of Paterson, N.J. knocked out Leo Parks of Beloite, Wisconsin at 1:18 of the second round. Pearson outweighed his foe, 142-137½.

Promoter: Bonita Hardesty.
Matchmaker: Pete Susens.
Referees: Sean Curtain and Pete Podgorski.
Judges: John Taylor, John Wilson and Gary Merritt.
Inspectors: Larry Labash and Wally Judge.
Attendance: 700 (est). Gross: $10,000 (est).
(2-17-87)

GARY L. MERRITT

▶**COLUMBUS—National Guard Armory**—South Bend's 32-year-old Harold Brazier, 147, proved too quick for Scottsburg's Jim Baker, 152, stopping Baker in the seventh of a scheduled 12.

Omaha's Felix Dubray, 142, scored a sixth-round TKO over Lincoln, Nebraska's Ted Spencer, 140½. Spencer was down in rounds two, four and five of the scheduled eight.

In his pro debut, Columbus' Hector Ramirez, 132, scored a four-round, unanimous decision over Lincoln, Nebraska's Jay James, 132½.

Anderson's Charles McGonigle, 154, scored a four-round, unanimous decision over Elkhart's Brian Young, 151. Young lost a point for low blows in the second round.

Terre Haute's Kent Acutt, 148, scored a four-round, unanimous decision over Rapid City, South Dakota's Billy Evans, 150½.

An action-packed six-rounder finished with Indianapolis' Mark Brannon, 135, winning a unanimous nod from Terre Haute's Randy Reedy, 134.

Promoter—T.J.'s Main Event.
Agent—Toni Lonaker.
State Inspectors—Rod Figg and Bill Van Orman.
Judges—Gary Merritt, Lance Rhodes and Harold Payton.
Referees—George DeFabis and Bill Vaughn.
Timekeeper—Ellie DeFabis.
Knockdowns—Beth Rhodes.
Physician—George Ginter, M.D.
(3-14-87)

KENTUCKY

▶**LEXINGTON—Continental Inn**—It was a generally disappointing evening for local fight fans, due mainly to a worthless main event.

Lexington local favorite Darrin "Schoolboy" Van Horn, 154½, brought his 26-0 (18 KOs) record in against Danny Thomas, 154, of Indianapolis. Thomas had a reputed record of 14-4-2, but knowledgeable ringsiders believed it to be much worse. It was easy to believe.

Thomas did everything but fight in the 10-round main event. What he did do was use every tactic in the book to make Van Horn, an 18-year-old freshman at the University of Kentucky, look bad. Thomas faked being thumbed, faked being hit low, mugged, held, did more bicycling than is to be seen on the Tour de France and, at times, actually turned his back and ran. He kept this up for 10 rounds and was booed constantly from Round One.

The interesting thing was that on the several occasions Thomas chose to exchange punches, he gave a good account of himself. He could have made a respectable fight, had he tried.

The decision was unanimous for Van Horn.

It is hoped that young Van Horn's father/promoter/trainer/manager, G.L. Van Horn, will, in future fights, provide his talented son with the kind of opposition the youngster deserves and needs if he is to continue to improve.

In the evening's first bout, Louisville's Nick Kendricks, 210, upped his record to 4-0, stopping Cincinnati's Don Johnson in 45 seconds of a scheduled four.

Johnson, out of shape at 231 pounds, went down at the first exchange of blows, but got up and tried to fight back only to be felled by a left hook heard throughout the arena. He was out for fully two minutes before being revived by ringside physician Dr. James Ross.

Kendricks may be boxing's next Great White Hope. He has a body builder's physique combined with determination and a devastating left hook. His right may be equally good, but we didn't see it.

In another match scheduled for four, Shawn Spinda, 135-pounder from Ashland, fought a courageous fight but saw his record fall to 5-5-2 as the short, southpaw slugger was outpointed by unanimous decision by Tampa's Mark Brown, 135. Brown showed good boxing skills in upping his record to 5-2-1.

Louisville's Mike Peek fought an effective fight against Terry Ray of Terra Haute, winning an impressive, eight-round unanimous decision over Pittsburgh's Martin Kearney, 156.

In his 27-13-2 career, the 35-year-old Floyd has met most of the class of the junior middleweight division. But he said before the fight, "I don't know about this one. I'm getting old." So it would appear because Floyd should have easily defeated the aggressive, but less experienced Kearney who, to his credit, looked much better than his 3-3 record would indicate. Credit is due to both men for a solid performance, but Floyd should be asking himself if it isn't time to hang up the gloves.

Debuting Rocky Ray Phillips, 162, of Dayton, Ohio, turned the tables via the knockout route on Lee Armstrong, who brought a 4-0 record from Cincinnati, all the wins coming by knockout. It was all Phillips in the first round of the scheduled four-round, walkout bout as he pressured Armstrong, 160, to the ropes and kept him there, banging away to the body. Though Armstrong survived the round, he was a beaten fighter and Phillips finished him off with a hard left hook to the kidney at 1:52 of the second.

Terry O'Brien refereed the entire card. Why? Is there a shortage of referees in the Bluegrass?

Promoter—G.L. Van Horn.
Ring Announcer—Tyler Smith.
Timekeeper—Chuck Sayer.
Referee—Terry O'Brien.
Judges—Larry Mullin, Mathew O'Brien and Danny Sullivan.
Ringside Physician—Dr. James Ross.
Attendance—800 (est.).
(1-12-87)

▶**LEXINGTON — Continental Inn** — Undefeated junior middleweight Darrin "Schoolboy" Van Horn stopped James "Papa" Moore at 2:46 of the sixth round of a scheduled eight-rounder.

The 18-year-old University of Kentucky freshman knocked Moore through the ropes in the fourth round, but the Evanston, Indiana import continued until referee Terry O'Brien stopped the action in the sixth. At that juncture, O'Brien asked Moore if he wanted to go on and, tired and bleeding, Moore responded in the negative.

The win left Van Horn, who suffered a small cut below his right eye, 28-0, with Moore a reported 14-2-1.

Middleweight Paul McPeek of Ashland scored a technical knockout over Reggie Barnes of Memphis, the end coming soon after the bell concluded the third round during which the 12-0 McPeek had pounded Barnes to the body.

Louisville heavyweight James Pritchard, 12-0-1, stopped Lima, Ohio's Larry Phelps at 2:10 of the second round.

Middleweight Knox Brown stopped George Reedy in two.
Promoter—G.L. Van Horn.
Attendance—1,200 (est.).
(2-24-87)

JOEL ROITMAN

LOUISIANA

John Duplessis is awarded the Continental America's lightweight belt after his sixth-round kayo over Nelson Bolanos in New Orleans.

▶**NEW ORLEANS—Superdome**—After a controversial finish, undefeated John Duplessis wore the World Boxing Council's Continental Americas lightweight crown.

The New Orleans native ran his record to 23-0 with a six-round techinical knockout of Equador's Nelson Bolanos.

Duplessis knocked down Bolanos late in the sixth with a straight right hand that knocked Bolanos' mouthpiece across the ring. Groggy, Bolano beat the count, but Duplessis pinned him againt the ropes and unleashed an all-out attack. Just as referee Lucien Joubert stopped the fight, the bell rang. The controversy arose over whether Joubert acted before or after the bell had sounded.

"I stopped it before the bell rang," said Joubert.

But timekeeper Johnny Femia disagreed, saying, "The bell rang before he stopped the fight."

Naturally, Dupelessis' camp agreed with Joubert, while Bolanos' handlers sided with Femia.

'He picked up the count at two when the timekeeper had it at seven," said Leslie Bonano, manager of Duplessis. "When Bolanos got up, John hit him a good shot and the ref stopped the fight right before the bell rang."

Bonano quickly took the gloves off Duplessis, while Bolano's handlers protested. Joubert went to Femia and asked "Did the bell ring?" upon which Femia replied, "Yes."

Meanwhile, the crowd expressed its displeasure, chanting, "Let them fight. Let them fight."

But, the scheduled 12-rounder was over, with Duplessis gaining his 16th knockout and Bolanos sustaining his second straight loss, the previous defeat coming by decision at the hands of Vinny Pazienza.

"I would have knocked him out anyway," said Duplessis. "I don't think he made the count, but even if he did, I was going to knock him out."

Marco Aguirre, Bolanos' manager, disagreed, saying, "The referee had no control of the fight. My fighter could have continued. How can they wait so long to decide the outcome? The referee stopped the fight after the bell rang. He didn't know what he was doing."

A 10-round preliminary saw Metairie's super middleweight Paul Whittaker win a unanimous decision over Atlanta's Leland Hart.

The opening bout had Corpus Christi, Texas lightweight Harold Warren pound out a unanimous, eight-round decision over Lafayette's Kenny Vice. Warren is 9-2, Vice, 17-2.
(3-9-87)

▶**PLAQUEMINE—Civic Center**—Local boxing sensation Boyd Trahan posted his 12th win without a loss, a unanimous, 10-round decision over Lamont Buchanan of St. Louis.

Though Trahan, a junior lightweight, failed to get his eighth knockout, he was in control from the fourth round on, knocking down Buchanan in that session and opening a gash over the visitor's right eye.

Buchanan is 12-3.

White Castle's Calvine Medine knocked out Darren Neal in just 28 seconds. Neal hails from Port Arthur, Texas.

St. Louis junior welterweight Ervin Carter took a split, four-round decision from Rodney Byers.

Opelouisas light heavytweight Ron Martin needed just over two minutes to dispose of St. Louis' Chuck McDowell.

Carencro's Robin Strong knocked out Walter Fields of Beaumont, Texas, at 1:17 of the second round.

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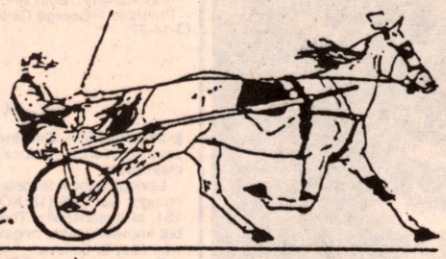

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Lightweight Shelton LeBlanc ended his match with St. Louis' Steve Hunter at 2:30 of the fourth round.
Promoter—Kerry Daigle.
(2-20-87)

MASSACHUSETTS

▶**BOSTON—John Hancock Hall**—Ken Butler won a unanmous, eight-round decision over Hartford's Khalif Shabazz, but the Hyde Park mailman did not win the New England junior middleweight crown as had been advertised.

Prefight publicity called this a match for the vacant 154-pound title, which struck some observers as off-key since title bouts generally require 12 rounds. After the fight, James McCarron of the Massachusetts Boxing Commission shed some light on the subject, saying, "They can call it what they like. As far as we're concerned, there's no title involved."

Butler, 154, withstood an early onslaught by the quick Shabazz, 152, then worked his way inside and scored with rugged combinations. Shabazz showed slick moves, even if he did carry his hands too low, but also displayed a tendency to loaf for long stretches. Butler's attack, sloppy but persistent, wore down Shabazz in the middle rounds, and Shabazz seemed to be in trouble in the sixth. But Shabazz rallied from long range in the seventh, reopening a cut over Butler's left eye that had first bled in the opening stanza. Butler survived Shabazz' last-ditch offensive in the final round and had his weary foe hanging on at the finish.

Judges Don O'Neill, 79-74, and John Costello, 80-75, along with referee Matt Mullaney, 79-75, gave the nod to Butler, who improved his record to 20-5. Shabazz dropped to 12-4.

The undercard consisted of six four-rounders.

Boston's Mike Lally, 181, was most fortunate to earn a decision over Providence's Kevin Denson, 189.

Springfield's Carlos Vergara, 125, won the unanimous nod over Pawtucket's Jose Lopez, 128.

Paul Shorts, 145-pounder from Providence, decisioned Bridgeport, Connecticut's Tony Riore, 144.

New York City's Rich Hollaway won a disputed, majority verdict over Stoughton's Derek Tresvant. Each weighed 164.

Peter Galvin, 143-pounder from Marblehead, stopped Lowell's Rene Merced, 140, at 1:55 of the first round.

Bridgeport's Jose Negron, 128, won by controversial kayo over Hyde Park's David Alers, 127. Negron belted Alers while the latter lay flat on the canvas, and referee Tommy Collins let the bout continue after allowing Alers time to recover. Negron swarmed him again, however, forcing the stoppage at 2:45 of the second frame.

Referees—Tommy Collins and Matt Mullaney.
Judges—Don O'Neill and John Costello.
Timekeeper—Jerry Albano.
Physician—Dr. Francis Wixted.
Promoter—Pendarvis Boxing Club.
Attendance—415. Gross—$6,225 (est.).
(2-27-87)

JAY N. MILLER

MICHIGAN

▶**DETROIT—Cobo Arena**—Credit must go to Ringside Productions Inc. matchmaker Tom Vacca for how well this card turned out.

The main event was to have been Jesse Benavides vs. Mario Gomez, but Gomez fell out. When a replacement was found for Gomez, Benavides fell out, leaving the card without a main event.

Vacca upgraded Detroit's "Jammin'" Jeff Thompson to his first 10-rounder and brought in hard-hitting Eric "The Hammer" Holley of Tampa as his foe. Holley, 175¾, was thought by many to be the slight favorite, but Thompson, 176, fought well, holding a clear lead going into the final rounds in spite of losing a point in the fifth round for retailiation low blows. In the ninth, a cut was opened over Thompson's left eye and in the 10th Thompson weathered Holley's best round as Holley, being far behind, had to throw caution to the wind and go all out for the knockout.

It was a good fight and Thompson's best win to date as the scorecards favored the Detroit southpaw, 97-92 (twice) and 99-90. Thompson is 11-0, with Holley dropping to 15-3.

In a battle of Detroiters, Courtney Hooper, 142, won a slugfest with "Smokin'" Joe Baker, 143, when he leveled him for the count at 1:27 of the fifth round. Hooper, who did the trick with a solid right hand, improved his record to 14-1, with Baker sliding to 4-4.

Detroit's very smooth, switch-hitting Anthony Jones, 138¾, looked exceptional in completely dominating Buffalo's Roger Brown, 139, over six rounds. Right hands by Jones dropped Brown in the second and fifth rounds. The winner boosted his mark to 11-0 with scores of 60-51 (twice) and 60-54.

The most exciting fight of the night had Billy "The Kid" Young of Bay City meeting his first real test in the much more experienced Sebastian Wilburn of Benton Harbor. Young, two pounds heavier than Wilburn at 134, battered his opponent in the first and third, then had to hang on in the final round as Wilburn turned the tables. The four-rounder was scored 38-38 (twice) and 39-37, Young, for a majority draw that left Young 4-0-1 and Wilburn 3-5-1.

A stunner occurred when Roseville's Andre Thibodeaux, 149, was knocked out at 2:58 of the third round by Brooklyn's Bill Robinson, 152. Thibodeaux, son of veteran cornerman Don Thibodeaux, entered the fight with three knockout wins in his first three starts, and he dropped Robinson with two right hands in the opening frame. But Thibodeaux ran out of gas as Robinson battled back.

Ypsilanti's Shawn Gray, 157, had to get off the mat in the fourth and final round to pull out a four-round, majority decision over Coldwater's Terry "Super T" Gay, 163. Gray won the first three rounds, but was floored by a right in the last session. Gray, 2-0, prevailed 39-37 and 38-36 on two cards, with the third reading 38-38. Gray is 2-0, Gay, 1-2.

Heavyweight action saw 216-pound Robby Robinson of Windsor, Ontario, improve his record to 2-1 with a third-round TKO over Detroit's Jeff "Spider" Curry, 207. Robinson, 2-1, ended the bout with a right to the body followed by a left to the head as the out-of-shape Curry dropped to 1-3.

Detroit's Billy Hearns improved to 7-0 with a TKO over Charleston, West Virginia's Marvin Adams, the end coming at 2:44 of the first round of the scheduled six. Each weighed 129¾.
Promoter—Ringside Productions Inc.
Matchmaker—Tom Vacca.
Chief Inspector—James Cullen.
Referees—Sam Williams and Bob Watson.
Judges—Frank Garza, Herb Ellison and John Chaulk.
Announcer—Wally Jackson.
Attendance—2,189.
(1-16-87)

▶**STERLING HEIGHTS-Premier Center**—New York's Tim Burgess made his first venture westward when he stepped into the ring with Benji Marquez of Denver.

Burgess, 133, was impressive, his quick movement making the difference as he improved his record to 10-1-1. Marquez, orginally a featherweight, appeared much too heavy and sluggish at 133¾, and Burgess controlled the 10-rounder, staying on his toes and striking quickly.

Burgess got the nod, 97-93 and 96-95 (twice), with *The Ring* agreeing on the 96-95 total.

Marquez dropped to 14-4.

A scheduled 10-round heavyweight scrap ended in the third when Spencer "The Warrior" Chavis, 198, easily handled an inept Trent Surratt, 196. Chavis, of Dearborn Heights, improved his record to 20-2, knocking down the Chicagoan twice with right hands to end the contest at 1:36.

Sidelined by injuries since last June, Detroit's Ernest "Ice Tea" Houser, 149½, returned to make quick work of Cincinnati's Ricardo Simpson, 151½, putting him away in just 2:02 of the scheduled six. Houser is 8-1.

Another quick outcome had Detroit's Ellery "ET" Thomas, 140¾, score a TKO in 1:55 over Covington, Kentucky's Jack "The Hammer" Benkley, 144½. Benkley, making his pro debut, went down from a right, then suffered a broken nose from another right. With Benkley's nose bleeding like a faucet, referee Hugh Smither stepped in and declared Thomas the winner for the fourth time in as many starts.

Evansville, Indiana's Tom "Boom Boom" Johnson, 125, improved to 3-0 with a third-round stoppage of Columbus, Ohio's Bobby Adams, 124. Adams seemed to be glued to the canvas, slipping five times in the first round, two times in the second and once in the third before Johnson dropped him three times to end the fight at 2:18.

One of the most exciting fights on the card lasted just under two rounds as Renaldo "Little Red" Carter, 118½, knocked down "Slim" Kim Jackson, 120, twice, stopping him at 2:41 of the second. Carter, of Detroit, is 4-0 and a good prospect. Though stopped, Jackson, of Elkhart, Indiana, showed promise in his pro debut.

In a real battle of youngsters, 18-year-old prospect Carlos "Psycho Norman" Bates, 131¾, dominated 17-year-old Fred "The Tank" Adams to win a four-round, split decision. One judge scored 40-36 for Bates, matching *The Ring's* card, while another gave it to the winner, 39-37. However, the third opted for Adams, 39-38. Adams, from Henderson, Kentucky, suffered his first loss, slipping to 6-1-1. Bates, of Elkhart, is 3-0-1.
Promoter—ABC Promotions Inc.
Matchmaker—Bojack Magum.
Chief Inspector—James Cullen.
Referees—Hugh Smither and Tom Briscoe.
Judges—Jim Hoomaian, Bernie Humphrey and Phil Ladouceur.
(1-27-87)

▶**STERLING HEIGHTS—Premier Center**—A double main event topped the show put on by ABC Promotions Inc., and once again they packed them in.

Headlining the card were Michigan light heavyweight champion Arthel Lawhorn and 1984 Olympic gold medal winner Steve McCrory.

Lawhorn, known as "Bam Bam" and "The Junkyard Dog," (and some fighters never get one nickname) scored a unanimous, 10-round decision over New York's Johnny "Chocolate Chip" Davis. Lawhorn, 182¾, controlled the bout, but Davis, 179½, made it much closer than the cards of 97-92, 99-90 and 99-93 would indicate. Lawhorn, of Detroit, is 17-11-2.

After two straight losses, McCrory, also of Detroit, got back on the winning track with a right uppercut and straight right that dropped Cleveland's James Tolliver for the count at 2:10 of the fifth round of their scheduled 10. McCrory, who outweighed Tolliver 125-123½, is 12-2-1.

Puerto Rico's Santos "Cheno" Cardona, 142¼, extended his record to 12-0 with an eight-round, unanimous decision over Milwaukee's Kevin Austin, 140½. The judges had it 76-75 (twice) and 78-73.

Detroit's Renaldo "Little Red" Carter, 119, improved his record to 5-0 by knocking down New York's Walter Gallman, 120½, three times in the first round for an automatic TKO at 2:02. The bout was scheduled for six.

Getting back into action after a layoff to allow proper healing of a bad cut that caused him two straight losses, Westland's Vince "Blue Thunder" Hopper, 176, pounded out a one-sided, six-round decision over Charleston, West Virginia's Bert Gravely. Every card read 60-54 for Hopper, who weighed 176 to Gravely's 177 in improving his record to 11-2.

Tom "Boom Boom" Johnson, a 127-pounder from Evansville, Indiana, walloped New York's Sammy Ruiz, 128, for six rounds to win 60-54 and 59-55 (twice). Johnson is 4-0.

A middleweight bout saw "Dangerous" Dan Schommer of Minneapolis have little trouble in handling Louisville's Tim Knight. When Knight, who outweighed Schommer 163-158½, realized it was a one-sided affair, he continued to hold until referee Sam Williams disqualified him at 1:58 of the fifth round of the scheduled six. Both fighters lost a point for hitting after the bell, Schommer in the second, Knight in the third.

Detroit's "Rocking" Rodney Gragg, 182½, moved to 4-3 with a one-sided pasting of Louisville's Elton Singleton, 172. Gragg won the four-round nod 40-36 on all cards.
Promoter/ABC Promotions Inc.
Matchmaker—Bojack Magum.
Chief Inspector—James Cullen.
Referees—Jim Burch and Sam Williams.
Judges—Gerry Anderson, Nate McKalpin, Nafeyah Jami and Bill Miley.
Announcer—Jim Ingram.
Timekeepers—Joe Kollins and William Hunter.
(2-24-87)

▶**DETROIT—Cobo Arena**—Former NABF super welterweight champion David "Machine Gun" Braxton got back on the winning track with a barn-blazing, 10-round win over Darryl "The Atomic Dog" Spain.

Braxton, at 156 a pound less than Spain, took an easy lead, sweeping the early rounds. But Spain finally worked his way inside in the final five rounds to turn the fight into a nonstop battle. By the time the fight ended, Braxton was bleeding from the mouth and cut over his left eye. The Detroit native got the nod, though, winning 97-93 (twice) and 98-94 to improve his record to 38-3.

The always-rugged Spain, of Bay City, dropped to 11-9, a very deceiving record as he has always fought top caliber opponents.

The main event drew a standing ovation and left the crowd buzzing after a somewhat drab undercard that saw Michigan featherweight and junior lightweight champ Erskine Wase, 135, have little trouble taking care of Eddie Richardson of New Orleans. Wade, of Detroit, had been inactive for awhile and went into the fight planning to get some work. But he got carried away when he saw how easy it was to get to Richardson, 134½, knocking him down three times for an automatic TKO at 2:51 of the opening round of the scheduled eight.

Detroit's Leland Hardy, 198¾, ended his work even faster, stopping Windsor, Ontario's Robbie Robinson, 216, at 1:40 of the opening canto. The first right hand Hardy landed on the jaw of Robinson prompted referee Bob Watson to step in, giving Hardy a 1-1 record as Robinson slipped to 2-2.

Jackson's Donald Cain, 140½, waited several months to turn pro, but Detroit southpaw Gary "G Man" Smith made him wish he'd waited a little longer. Smith, 140, was all over Cain, belting him to the canvas three times with left hands to end the scheduled four in 1:44. Smith is 2-0.

Detroit's Cheyrice Countryman squared his mark at 1-1 and ruined the pro debut of Flint's Tyrone Rogers, stopping Rogers at 2:06 of the second round of the scheduled four. Each fighter weighed 140.
Promoter—Ringside Productions Inc.
Matchmaker—Tommy Vacca.
Chief Inspector—Ted Kuzemka.
Referees—Bob Watson and Sam Williams.
Judges—Chuck McHenry, Cynthia Wrobel and Chip Acey.
Announcer—Wally Jackson.
Timekeepers—William Hunter and William Hunter, Jr.
(2-26-87)

▶**DETROIT—Latin Quarter**—New promoter in town Jerome Moore put on his first show under the banner of Motor City Classic Promotions at the Latin Quarter nightclub, formerly the 20 Grand where William "Caveman" Lee and John Locicero staged their terrific fight in 1981. Moore's show was the first professional action at the site since the Kronk card of the early 80s.

Headlining was Highland Park's Darnell "Hard" Knox, the current Michigan junior middleweight champion and former ESPN junior middleweight tournament winner.

Knox, 159, felt out Miami's David Barrow, 162¼, in the opening round, administered punishment in the second, then put Barrow away at 2:33 of the third with a right hand that had Barrow waiver in the air, then drop face down for the count.

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Knox looked poised and in control all the way in the scheduled 10-rounder.

In the fight of the night, Benton Harbor's Sebastian Wilburn scored an upset knockout of Detroit's Garry "Notorious" Martin at 51 seconds of the sixth round. It was nonstop action, and Martin knew he was in for a long night right off the bat when, after winning the opening round, he was dropped by a left jab in both the second and third rounds. Still, Martin, who matched Wilburn's 136 pounds, came back to win the next two rounds and was looking good in the sixth when Wilburn landed a crunching left hook that put Martin down and ended the fight. A good fight for two warriors with a great heart, Martin falling to 12-2 while Wilburn upped his record to 4-6-1.

A fight that ended surprisingly fast had Anthony Jones, 138, run his record to 12-0 by blasting out Alex "Birdman" Byrd, 138¾, at 2:48 of the opening canto. It was a stunning scenario as Jones put down the 20-6 Byrd three times with right hands to stop the scheduled eight between Detroit natives.

Detroit's Stanley Longstreet, 136, made his pro debut for the Kronk Boxing Team, scoring a four-round, unanimous decision over John Wright, 139. Wright, also from Detroit, fell to 3-10.

Another debuting Detroit fighter, Dorell Van Horn, 154, scored a first-round TKO over Lima, Ohio's Raynell Vaxter, 155¼. Vaxter sailed out of the ring between the top two ropes, fell to the floor and was unable to come out for the second round of the scheduled four.

Promoter—Motor City Classic Promotions.
Matchmaker—Tom Vacca.
Chief Inspector—Jim Cullen.
Referees—Dale Grable and Spence Carpenter.
Judges—Randy Erickson, Herb Ellison and N. McKalpin, Jr.
Announcer—Jim Ingram.
Timekeepers—Joe Kollins and Ken Pace.
(2-27-87)

DAVE HARTOON

NEW HAMPSHIRE

▶**CONCORD—Capitol Theater**—New Hampshire's first pro card in a couple of years may have done just so-so at the gate, but the imported talent made for an action-packed, if abbreviated, program.

The main event, scheduled for 10 rounds, pitted Ken Styles of the Bronx against Cling Longmire of Youngstown, Ohio. Styles, 163, wasted much of the first frame figuring out Longmire's awkward, bobbing and weaving style. By the end of the round, though, Styles was setting himself and scoring with precise combinations as he countered Longmire's lunging hooks. Styles crunched Longmire, 161, with a counter right early in the second round, dropping the Ohio veteran for a nine-count. Longmire weathered a long barrage, survived the round and seemed rejuvenated when the third started, pressing Styles behind his left hook. Styles slipped in his own left hook, though, and a straight right behind it, to put Longmire down for good before the round was half completede.

"I gave him a lot of movement and tried to keep stepping around his right," said Styles, who registered his 13th knockout in his 18-1 record. "I could see he carried his left hand low, but it wasn't until the third round that I could come over it with my straight right."

An eight-round semifinal produced more fireworks as Junior Edmond displayed a murderous left hook in dispatching Len Edwards at 44 seconds of the second round. Edmonds, from Orange, New Jersey, is billed as the Garden State's light heavyweight champ with a record of 24-3-1. Edwards, of Cleveland, is 10-6. Each weighed 175.

The pro debut of Bucksport, Maine's Bob Wadleigh, 151, was successful as he stopped 152-pound Paulinho Falcone of Springfield, Massachusetts in 2:30 of a scheduled four.

Another four-rounder had Springfield's Carlos Vergara, 122, win a unanimous decision over Adam Avillas, who hailed from Worcester, Massachusetts weighing 121.

Four amateur bouts opened the evening.
Promoter—Teaco Promotions (Tom Adair).
Referees—Bob Rivard and Bob Martin.
Judges—Jim Finnegan, Jay McDuffee and William James.
Timekeeper—Bob LaChance.
Announcer—Ken Burman.
Ringside Physician—Dr. Rene Barrette.
Director of Events—Al Nayer.
Attendance—600 (est.). Gross—$6,000 (est.).
Tickets—$15.
(3-6-87)

JAY N. MILLER

NEW JERSEY

PHOTO BY ERIC B. HUGHES

Kevin Watts (left) evades a right from Steve Darnell on his way to a unanimous 10-round decision.

▶**ATLANTIC CITY—Harrah's Marina Hotel & Casino**—A not-too-promising main event turned out a pleasant surprise as Keven Watts, 162½, Pleasantville, scored a unanimous win over Steve Darnell, 163, Livonia, Mich., 10. Permitted a step back after some rough starts, the well-regarded Watts got a good workout from the unbeaten, but untested, visitor. Darnell gave the "homie" a scare early as his size and southpaw stance had Watts confused and hurt by thudding lefts to the midsection. But Kevin showed good ring generalship, beginning in the fourth to muscle in close with a rugged, physical attack that took away those advantages. Steve tried to regain command with a vigorous attack in the eighth. But Watts outgunned him in solid exchanges, then battered him in the ninth. The unconquered invader made another charge in the 10th as the favorite was forced to battle to the wire. Richard F. Murry and Thomas Kaczmarek scored 97-93, and Tony Orlando 98-94. Ref, Rudy Battle.

After laboring in obscure prelims for some time, Michael Green, 126½, Plainfield, caught a break and defeated shopworn vet Paul Devorce, 129, Yonkers, by unanimous decision, eight. Devorce was rocked by a surprise right and nearly gone in the first, with the rest of the bout an anticlimax. Ref, Battle.

In a lively punch-up, Tommy Hanks, 131, Cleveland, belted out Marty Burton, 129½, Montreal via Pleasantville, at 2:11 of the third, scheduled six. The punked-out Burton looked like "Sid Vicious," but showed the fortitude of Amy Grant. He folded every time Hanks turned up the heat, going down once in the first, then twice in the third. Ref Orlando stopped it over his weak protest.

Leeonzer Barber, 177, Detroit, nonchalanted his way to a close, majority verdict over game Felix Nivar, 177, NYC, in a good four. Ref, Orlando.

And in a bout held too early for anyone to see, Pedro "El Bambino, The Beastmaster" Garcia, 137, NYC, won a unanimous decision from Larry Pringle, 135, Wash., DC, six. Ref, Battle.

Promoter—HBA/East & Madison Sq. Garden Boxing.
Matchmaker—Ron Katz, Bobby Goodman.
Attendance—1,000 (est.).
Timekeeper—Justin Bucanico.
Announcer—Ed Derian.
(2-26-87)

▶**ATLANTIC CITY—Trump Casino Hotel**—Like a nagging toothache, the less-than-popular Howard Davis refuses to go away. Just when you thought it was safe to go back to the fights, Howard returns like "Freddie," with no intention of growing gracefully old as a stepping stone for young lions. With a vengeance, Davis, 140½, S. Brunswick, NJ, haunted HBA by knocking off their hopeful, Othal "Choo Choo" Dixon, 140½, Baltimore via Houston, by unanimous decision, in an outstanding 10.

It was a sterling performance even Howard's detractors had to admire. The fireplug Dixon lived up to his nickname, chugging after Davis with iron-bound determination. But the veteran's experience proved decisive as he put on a masterful display of ring generalship to make the most of his assets. Howard conserved his legs skillfully, alternating between moving and stationary tactics. When circling at long range, he jolted Dixon with snapping combinations. But it was on the inside that Davis really surprised, fighting with back to the ropes effectively and more than holding his own in blistering exchanges. Though the scoring was lopsided, "Choo Choo" was very much in the fight. But despite non-stop mixing, the action was well-disciplined, with Davis always seeming to manage the last word in the exchanges. Frank Brunette voted 98-90, William Kostrub 99-91 and Frank Cairo 99-87. Frank Cappuccino refereed.

In a brutal slugging match that had the violence, but not the poetry of the main event, Lenny LaPaglia, 173½, Chi., TKO'd Nestor Flores, 172, Panama via Bronx, at 0:28 of the eighth and final round. Lenny attempted a classic, left-held-low, stalking style, offering his chin and mugging, but couldn't quite pull it off. He rocked Flores repeatedly, but got peppered in between and had one eye closed. Finally, a booming left hook sent Nestor staggering, with his corner flinging the towel even before their fighter had completed a dramatic slow collapse to the floor. Ref, Joe Cortez.

Mark Miller, 141, Cinc., impressed, fighting off a severe eye cut to blast out dangerous Jonathan "Bilal-ski" Bacote, 140½, Newark, in an explosive 2:05 of the first, scheduled six. Ref, Cortez.

In an untidy brawl, Jimmy Darpa, 151, Corona, NY, TKO'd Jeff Austino, 153, Williamstown, NJ, at 2:30 of the third, scheduled four. The son of a gym owner, Austino was thoroughly unprepared, going down twice in the first and once in the second before walking away exhausted. Ref, Cappuccino.

Promoter—Josephine Abercrombie & Jeff Levine (HBA/East).
Matchmaker—Ron Katz.
Attendance—400 (est.).
Timekeeper—Art Spell.
Announcer—Ed Derian.
(2-27-87)

Former WBA junior middleweight champ Davey Moore returned to action for the first time since losing to Buster Drayton and scored a 10-round decision over Cecil Pettigrew in Atlantic City.

▶**ATLANTIC CITY—Resorts Int'l**—Top Rank matchmakers Teddy Brenner and Bruce Trampler ended up arranging an all right- vs. left-handed card, though they claimed the pairings were by coincidence. Originally, five such bouts were scheduled, but only four took place. The "righties" prevailed, 3-1. In co-feature

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10s, two contenders with title shots at hand kept busy against lively opposition.

Terrence Alli, 137, NYC thoroughly dominated and stopped Jeff Bumpus, 136¼, Elkhart, Ind., when the doctor advised a halt after the eighth. Bumpus was cut on the inside of the right eye from the fourth on and stood little chance of winning. Though a willing mixer, "The Tasmanian Devil" was overwhelmed by Alli's hand and foot speed as it was Terrence who more resembled the whirling dervish of cartoon fame. Though never in serious trouble, the tough Bumpus was outgunned both inside and out and hadn't won a round when it was stopped by ref Joe O'Neil.

By contrast, Davey Moore, 159¾, Bronx, had no easy night gaining a unanimous win over spare-tired Cecil Pettigrew, 160, Tulsa, in an at times sloppy mix-up. Cecil took a fearsome drubbing and was nearly gone in three of the first five rounds. Yet each time, he saved himself with a miracle rally that stymied Moore's best offense. In later rounds, Pettigrew gave Moore several scares as whacking rights to the ribs stopped him in his tracks. But each time, Cecil got overanxious and gunned for the head. Moore's left eye was nearly closed as what started as a romp ended as a limp to the wire. Eugene Grant scored 98-91, Ron Burns 97-91 and "Rocky" Castellani 98-94. Tony Orlando refereed.

"It sure wasn't an easy fight coming back," Moore admitted. "I know the work will be good for me. I want to put about three or four good wins together and I'll get back into contention."

The only victorious southpaw, Bertram Buchanan, 153¾, NYC, thoroughly drubbed comebacking Angel Sindo, 155, Deptford, NJ, by unanimous decision, six. Sindo plodded straight into the shifty southpaw's guns. Ref, O'Neil.

Traore Ali, 199, Bamako, Mali, via NYC, was down and nearly gone in the first but came back to beat a tiring Curtis "The Trashman" Dudley, 199¼, Hartford, by split decision in an earnest, but untidy six. Ref, Orlando.

Promoter—Bob Arum (Top Rank, Inc.).
Attendance—800 (est.).
Timekeeper—Justin Bucanico.
Announcer—Mike Buffer.
(3-11-87)

▶ATLANTIC CITY—Harrah's Marina Hotel & Casino—Promoter Peltz's unbeaten tiger, Tony Thornton, 161, Glassboro, NJ, got clawed, but emerged a winner over trialhorse Basante Blanco, also 161, Caracas, in a scheduled 10. The shifty Blanco was outmaneuvering the two-fisted bomber, side-stepping and popping to confuse Thornton and busting up his right eye. Late in the fifth, Thornton launched an "I've-had-enough-of-this-bleep" rally, simply outmuscling the cutie with a crunching body attack. Blanco was hurt, nose bloodied and fighting for his survival well past the bell. But once he had time to sit and think about it, Basante was overtaken by self-doubt and gave ref Steve Smoger a "no mas" before the start of the sixth. "At the end of the fifth round, his ticker started to fade and his cardiovascular fitness was short," the winner explained.

Similarly, Hughie "Buttons" Kearney, 147¼, Phila., was having no easy time with Ali Salaam, also 147¼, Detroit, in a scheduled 10. The southpaw Kearney couldn't keep outside of the classy-boxing Salaam's extended left foot, and twice got nailed by right counters and tripped for flash knockdowns in the second and fourth. Nevertheless, Kearney landed the more telling blows in tight exchanges and began closing Ali's left eye in the fourth. With the eye looking ugly and Salaam unable to see punches coming, ref Paul Venti abruptly stopped the contest at 1:32 of the seventh over the loser's bitter complaints. At the time, "Buttons" led 58-57 on Rich Strange's card and 59-57 on Al DeVito's, while John Stewart had it even at 57.

Willie Ford, 129, Phila., was too much for a gallant little John "Buckwheat" Farina, 125, Ardmore, PA, and dished out a solid, unanimous beating in a rugged six. Ref, Smoger.

Willie "The Little Worm" Monroe, 162¼, Rochester/Ithaca, was whacking Ali Bey, 164, Wilmington, at will, scoring a standing eight and TKO at 2:23 of the second, scheduled six. Ref, Venti.

Promoter—Peltz Boxing & Madison Sq. Garden Boxing.
Matchmaker—J. Russell Peltz, Bobby Goodman.
Attendance—800 (est.).
Timekeeper—Roosevelt Gilbert.
Announcer—Ed Derian.
(3-5-87)

▶E. RUTHERFORD—Sheraton—A new promotion got underway with an ambitious plan to rival Atlantic City. Jim Wiley, manager of a stable of prospects, ran an elegant program of dinner, entertainment and boxing. The idea, popular in various other locales, was new to the area, but met with encouraging results. "We want to get away from the idea of smoke-filled rooms and get the women and the gentlemen interested," Wiley explained. "There will be no one spitting on your shoulder, cursing, pushing. It will be very high class."

The main event, however, almost matched Wiley's indictment of unruly fans! Matt Farrago, 158, Syracuse, was lucky to get a unanimous decision over Donald Johnson, 152, Bklyn., in a mauling 10 that featured everything but clean punching. The crafty Johnson, in fact, completely frustrated the bullish charges of the crude Farrago. But Donald "fought" so negatively, concentrating mainly on shutting Matt down that he no doubt prejudiced his case with the judges. Neither did ref Paul Venti help, taking points away from Johnson for a kidney blow in the fourth after he'd scored a flash knockdown of Farrango and for holding in the eighth. The deductions proved pivotal as both Charlie Spina and Thomas Kaczmarek scored 94-93, while John Poturaj had 96-92.

The co-feature 10 was as classy as the main was crude. In a sensational battle, Eusebio Espinal, 122½, Dom. Rep. via Hudson County, NJ, TKO'd Luis Ramos, 121½, NYC, at 2:59 of the sixth. In furious action, Espinal proved too skilled, peppering the charging Ramos with sharp combinations. But Luis kept trying to turn it around with dogged determination. He did a spectacular slo-mo fold to the canvas in the second following a left hook, but hung on until in trouble again in the fourth. A desperation right stunned Espinal and saved Ramos for the sixth when he was twice cut down before ref Randy Neumann halted it.

Henry Hughes, 142, Hudson City, NJ, escaped with a cut-eye TKO over determined Frank "El Cuervo" Navas, 142, Caracas, who was unable to come out for the sixth of eight. Hughes was outclassing Navas in crackling action, but was staggered by a sneak right in the second and tiring in the fifth. Ref, Neumann.

Alphonso Bailey, 155¾, Lodi, NJ, TKO'd Lonnie Adams, 154¾, Phila., after four of a scheduled six. Adams held it close in good action until wilting under a body attack. Ref, Venti.

Walter Houston, 153¼, Staten I., won a unanimous decision over Bill Robinson, 153, Bklyn., in a workmanlike four. Ref, Venti.

Johnny Bizzaro, 141¼, Erie, (the son of Lou Bizzaro, not to be confused with cousin Johnny Bizzaro Jr.), won a unanimous decision over gritty Angel Rodriguez, 140, Hackensack, in an amateurish, but spirited four. Ref, Neumann.

Promoter—Jim Wiley & Bob Miles (Star Sport-Mustapha Corp. Promotions).
Matchmaker—Don Elbaum, Harold Weston Jr.
Attendance—300, $12,000 (est.).
Timekeeper—Justin Bucanico.
Announcer—Mike Buffer.
(3-13-87)

J. R. JOWETT

NEW YORK

▶NEW YORK CITY—Felt Forum—A card that was to have featured Tyrone Jackson defending his Continental Americas super featherweight title in a 12-round bout against Joaquin Acuna and Mark McPherson in a 10 against Sammy Floyd was decimated when several fighters were ruled out for medical reasons by the New York State Athletic Commission. The resulting main event saw McPherson, 162, Lakeview, New York, win a lopsided, 10-round unanimous decision over eight-round club fighter Mike Peoples, 160, Monticello, N.Y. Scoring: George DeGabriel, 9-1; Bernie Friedkin, 10-0; Danny Whelan, 8-2. Al LoBianco, referee. McPherson is 20-2 with eight kayoes. Peoples is 9-14-3 with two knockouts.

Former Golden Gloves champ Mark Weinman, 151, Whitestone, N.Y., went to 9-0 (six kayoes) with a technical knockout over Marvin McDowell, 149½, Baltimore, at 2:04 of the fifth session in a scheduled eight. Weinman had a rough first round, but shot his right hand over McDowell's superior reach to totally dominate the contest. Referee Charley Norkus' ill-timed intervention drew boos from the crowd as McDowell's record dipped to 8-5 with four kayoes.

English-born southpaw Tunde "The Doctor" Foster, 138, Brooklyn, improved his log to 11-0 (eight knockouts) with a unanimous decision over Derrick McGuire, also 138, Benton Harbor, Mich., eight. Scoring: DeGabriel and Whalen, both 8-0; Friedkin, 6-2. McGuire is 12-4 with seven kayoes. Nick Drake, referee.

Glenwood "The Real Beast" Brown, 143, Plainfield, N.J., TKOd Joe Johnson, 141, Detroit, at 0:39 of the fourth round in their scheduled eight. Brown, whose right hand carried him to the best win of his young career, is 9-0 with seven kayoes. Johnson is 7-2 with five knockouts. Nick Drake, referee.

David "Bad Boy" Weinman, 130½, Whitestone, N.Y., made his pro debut with a three-knockdown TKO over Dave Scott, 128, Baltimore, at 2:28 of the first round in a scheduled four. Scott is now 0-4. Samuel Viruet, referee.

Farrad Pinchback, 164, Jamaica, Queens, N.Y., won a unanimous (all cards 3-1) decision over debuting Mike "Honey Bee" Williams 158½, New York, four. Pinchback is 3-0-1. Samuel Viruet, referee.

Carl Wilson, 161½, Flushing, Queens, N.Y., floored and TKOd Stewart Daniels, 156½, Queens, at 2:39 of the first round in their scheduled four. Wilson is 7-8-2 with six kayoes. Daniels is 1-1. Samuel Viruet, referee.

Timekeeper—Cecilio Pedraja.
Ring Announcer—Ed Derian.
Total Attendance—1,814.
(3-12-87)

HERBERT G. GOLDMAN

OREGON

▶PORTLAND—Starry Night Club—IBF lightweight champ Greg Haugen and two-time Olympian Robert Shannon were ringside for this debut of a talent show format in this city's hottest pop concert club.

Promoter Bob Jarvis offered seven evenly matched preliminary bouts featuring Northwest fighters, much to the delight of a crowd of fistic diehards weary of the boxing scandals that preoccupied this city throughout 1986. Mismatches and tank jobs that had been all too familiar in the past were conspicuous by their absence.

In the eight-round main event, Ontario, Oregon's Juan Cantu, 130, used methodical power to win a TKO at 40 seconds of the seventh round over a cut and tired Denzil Surrell, 131. Surrell is a transplanted Jamaican living in Seattle.

Fight of the night honors went to Portland's Donny Parks, 147, and his bashing partner, Seattle's Robert Michael Smith, 146. Both men leaned on their lefts to good effect, Smith jabbing and Parks hooking, with Parks emerging with a unanimous decision. Parks hit the deck in the first round, Smith smacked the canvas in the third. At the final bell of the four-rounder, the crowd awarded the fighters the Order of the Standing O and showered the ring with money. A $50 bonus for each boxer was presented by a fan and matched by the promoter.

A scheduled four had Seattle's Carl Owens, 158, TKO Kelso, Washington's Rich Lafever, 160, in 40 seconds.

Portland's Rick Jarvis, 163, TKO'd Seattle's game Bobby Stokes, 159, at 2:10 of the second round.

Kelso's Dale Dorsett was taking a boxing lesson from Vancouver's slick Jerry Borden until a hatchet right to the chin put Borden down and out at 1:38 of the third round of a scheduled four. Each weighed 140.

Seattle's Willie Davis, 127, scored a six-round, split decision win over Spokane's Kirk Bocook, 126.

Vaughn Pierre Derry, a 185-pounder from Salem, TKO'd Springfield's Steve Harvey, 183, at the end of the second round of a scheduled four.

Judges—Ben Laford, George Robinson and Paul Weitzel.
Referees—Phil Moyer and Bill Thornberg.
Ringside Physician—Dr. Robert Lorey.
Promoter—Bob Jarvis Promotions.
Attendance—400.
(2-26-87)

KATHERINE DUNN

PENNSYLVANIA

▶PHILADELPHIA—J&A Caterers—Tight quarters and budget restraints may hinder future efforts at this venue, but if this action-packed, six-bout card was any barometer, this new team in town has itself some winning advertising to bolster its stock as serious purveyors of club-level boxing.

No knockdowns doesn't necessarily mean no excitement. And this presentation bore that out.

In the evening's top bout, Hector Frazier, also known as Joe Frazier, Jr., took an eight-round, majority decision over Rich McCain in a battle of Philadelphians. Hector, 140, pressed a la his dad, but lacked the power to put his foe away. He kept McCain, 141, on the ropes for the most part, but McCain, despite being out of action for 18 months, proved resilient, making Frazier earn every point. McCain suffered a cut over his right eye in the first round, but doggedly fought through it.

Rudy Battle scored the bout 36-36, but Carol Polis, 39-36, and Lynn Carter, 38-35, went for Frazier, agreeing with *The Ring* card that read 39-34.

Tyrone Mitchell (Frazier), 163, and Kenny Reese, 157, battled fiercely to an eight-round draw. Mitchell, of North Philly, saw his energetic approach offset by the effective countering of his switch-hitting rival from South Philly, who suffered a cut right eye in the seventh. *The Ring* agreed with Carter's 36-36. Battle called it 38-35, Mitchell, with Polis disagreeing, seeing it 37-36, Reese.

In a battle between North Philly rivals, William Morris, 176, won his third fight of this young year, a six-round, unanimous decision over Jeffrey Hill, 174. Morris offset the early assault of comebacking Hill to take over late in Round Two. *The Ring* again agreed with Carter, scoring 29-26. Polis had it 29-25 and Battle called it 28-26.

Crude as can be, Norristown's Chris Organtini, 136, proved too darn aggressive for a "where has he been lately?" Sterling Staton, 134. Staton, of South Philly, showed a will to survive, if nothing else, as the crowd favorite took the unanimous decision.

Curtis Mathis, 128, withstood a half-round barrage by Jeff Nance, 126, then came on to reverse the tide and stop his opponent at 1:54 of Round Two. Nance was being pummeled in a neutral corner when referee John Carroll stopped the match between the North Philadelphia residents.

North Philly's Kevin Dublin, 186, got a break from referee Charlie Sgrillo when the ref overruled a first-round knockdown scored by Charlottesville, Virginia's Alonzo Cutchins due to a follow-up illegal right hand chop to the neck of the falling Dublin. Sgrillo gave Dublin sufficient time to recuperate and took the round away from Cutchins, somewhat severe action considering Sgrillo didn't penalize Dublin for hitting after the bell. Round Two had Cutchins back in control, but he somehow managed to hurt his right ankle and could not go on, giving Dublin a TKO win at 1:10. Apparently, the injury was legit as Cutchins was taken from the arena on a stretcher for further examination.

Timekeeper—J.P. Mena.
Promoter—Datom Promotions, Tom Frazier, President.
Matchmaker—Gary Hegyi.
Announcer—Hank Kropinski.
Attendance—700 (650 paid).
Tickets—$13 in advance, $15 at the door.
(3-5-87)

JACK OBERMAYER

RHODE ISLAND

▶PROVIDENCE—Civic Center—Pazmania played Providence once more and, while lightweight Vinny Pazienza provided another dominant performance, the usual boffo business at the gate failed to materialize.

Pazienza, 135½, was too quick, too elusive and too busy for Robert Elizondo, the Corpus Christi, Texas warrior whose days as a force in the lightweight division are in the past.

Elizondo, 134½, tried to wear down his young foe with body blows, but Pazienza danced away, popping a persistent left jab as he circled the Texan. When Pazienza stood and threw combinations, Elizondo could't escape or counter effectively. Pazienza had Elizondo in trouble as early as the seventh round, but the Texas veteran's resilience kept him upright through the heaviest barrages.

It was a weary Elizondo who finally began to wilt under the Pazienza onslaught in the final round as the Cranston contender trapped his victim in a corner and hammered away. Elizondo staggered across the ring only to be caught against the ropes for another bombardment. Referee Joe Cortez stepped in and halted matters at 2:56 of the 10th round.

"I kept flashing back to Harry Arroyo and thinking '10 rounds again on NBC. These people won't think I punch," said Pazienza. "I wanted to end it bad. I hit him fast, hard and quite often. And for those people who didn't think I can take a punch, they can believe it now. That guy could hit, and I got caught a few times."

Elizondo, comparing Pazienza's power with past opponents, said, "I was more tired than hurt when the referee stopped it. He's a pretty good puncher, but not as hard as (Alexis) Arguello or (Edwin) Rosario."

For the record, the three judges all had Pazienza far ahead, Walter Stone and Clark Sammartino each scoring 45-37, while Phil Addison, Jr. had it 44-37.

Promoter Dan Duva was upset at the attendance of 7,127, Pazienza's first Civic Center date under 10,000 and his lowest

gross at $160,000. Although the local NBC affiliate had to black out the bout, the Boston NBC station protested successfully that it be allowed to carry the fight live. Since Boston is only 50 miles north, many Pazmaniacs probably stayed home to view the action, prompting Dan Duva to vow it would never happen again.

Pazienza and manager Lou Duva devoted most of their post-fight talk to prospects for an upcoming title fight, with IBF champ Greg Haugen the most likely target.

The abbreviated undercard opened with an impressive display of power by John John Molina, who knocked out Chris Silvas at 2:14 of the third round of a scheduled eight. The 128-pound Silvas of Corpus Christi, Texas, plummeted headfirst to the canvas after a fearsome, two-handed attack. Molina is 13-0. Silvas, who weighed 129, is 17-4.

John Rafuse, a 140-pounder from Malden, Mass., pounded out a workmanlike, six-round decision over veteran Sammny Young, 140, of Troy, N.Y.

A four-rounder pitting winless foes saw Bridgeport, Connecticut's Jose Negron, 129, take a clearcut decision over Providence's Jose Lopez, 127.

Promoter—Main Events.
Attendance—7,127. Gross—160,000 (est.).
Referees—Joe Cortez, main event. Richard Tierney.
Judges—Clark Sammartino, Walter Stone and Phil Addison.
(2-8-87)

JAY N. MILLER

TENNESSEE

▶**MEMPHIS—Omni-Daisy Theatre**—Millington, Tennessee's Reggie Barnes advanced to the final of the Mid South Boxings' Southern junior middleweight tournament with a 10-round, majority decision over J.D. Dobbins of Little Rock, Arkansas.

The two 153-pounders stood toe-to-toe, with Barnes gaining the advantage on two cards, 95-94 and 97-96. The third card read 95-95.

Barnes will meet Brian Grant of Memphis for the championship April 21.

Greg Dickson of Memphis stopped Nate Nevlis of Little Rock at 2:58 of the second round. Each weighed 155 for the scheduled six-rounder.

A four-rounder had late substitute Mike Jones of Memphis win a four-round decision over Little Rock's Kim Adams. Jones weighed 238, Adams 217.

Another four-rounder saw Covington's Rob Williamson, 138, win by unanimous decision over Memphis' Tony Houart, 140.

Promoter—Tom Harmon and Mid South Boxing Inc.
Matchmaker—Red Fortner.
Announcer—Sleepy Rutherford.
Judges—Gilbert Beam, James Perkins, Haywood Watts, Jim Harbert, Alex McCollum and Mark Atkinson.
Referees—Jim Kidd, Irving Tucker and Sam Garland.
Timekeeper—Ron Cardoni.
Physician—Dr. Greg Swafford.
Attendance—350 (est.).
(3-17-87)

TEXAS

▶**CORPUS CHRISTI—Memorial Coliseum**—In an exciting rematch with the stakes much higher than before, Roland "Bad News" Gomez decided this time there would be no controversial decision as he stopped arch-rival Tim Silva at 1:58 of the seventh of a scheduled 12-round bout for the vacant Continental Americas super flyweight crown.

The two had met seven months earlier, fighting an extremely close eight rounds. Gomez got the split decision, a verdict bitterly protested by the Silva entourage, which insisted it was home-cooked. As fate would have it, Mike Phelps, Gomez' original opponent for this date, pulled out, citing an injury to his rotator cuff. Silva was sent in to pinch-hit for his stablemate, setting the stage for Silva's purported revenge against his nemesis.

Each started slowly, showing respect for the other's right hand. But action heated considerably in the third, with both boxer-punchers trading equal blows in what was beginning to look like an exact replica of their first encounter.

In the fifth, Silva backed Gomez into the ropes with vicious body shots. But Gomez, respondiing to his corner's pleas to settle down and take control, exhibited a much-improved series of three-punch combinations and left hooks to the ribs of Silva in Round Six. Silva, who weighed 115 as did Gomez, seemed to be holding on, but came back with sharp combinations of his own, most landing on the chin of Gomez. At one point, Silva drew blood from the nose of Gomez, but never had him in any immediate trouble.

Gomez, who hails from Corpus Christi, sensed his victory was in jeopardy. Midway through Round Seven, Gomez connected with a thunderous left hook to the head of Silva, sending the Houston product to the mat in a heap and bringing the Corpus Christi crowd to its feet. Silva struggled up, barely beating the count, and referee Lefty Barrera allowed him to continue.

Wasting no time in showing the home crowd his prowess at finishing a hurt opponent, Gomez swarmed all over Silva, stinging him with everything but the kitchen sink. Silva went through the ropes, and Barrera came to the rescue.

The victory left Gomez 13-1 with 10 KOs, with Silva slipping to 11-3.

Corpus Christi's world-ranked featherweight Lupe Suarez, 125, continued his winning streak by stopping a game Rico Velasquez, 123½, at 2:37 of the sixth of a scheduled 10. Suarez, once a protege of Angelo Dundee, overcame a bout with hepatitis, an injured middle knuckle that has plagued him for years and a shift of managers and trainers to boost his record to 20-1 with 17 KOs. Velasquez, from McAllen, Texas, fell to 11-3. Referee: Mark Tillman.

Stretching his unbeaten string to 16, Corpus Christi's Jesse Benavides, 124, scored his 10th KO, stopping Houston's young, but ring-wise John Boyd, 123, in the 10th. Benavides thrilled the hometown crowd with a super aggressive show of flash and punching ability, flooring Boyd twice in Round 10, leading Tillman to stop the contest at 2:28. Benavides, trained by Tony Ayala and managed by Detroit's Kronk team, was comfortably ahead on all cards at the time of the stoppage. Boyd fell to 9-3-1.

Starting out the night's card, Corpus Christi's Roland Guerrero, 146, was victorious in his professional debut, winning a four-round decision over Edinburg's Raul Salazar, 145½. Salazar is 2-1, both wins coming by KO.

Promoter—Lester Bedford.
Matchmaker—Wayne Harrison.
Judges—John Whitley, Dennis Collins and Santos Ronja.
Timekeeper—Rudy Rivra.
Physician—Xico Garcia.
Announcers—Della Adame and David Donaldson.
Attendance—2.000 (est.).
(3-10-87)

BILL BOLLING

VIRGINIA

▶**RICHMOND**—Richmond's Vincent Pettway, 152, knocked out Nashville's Lopez McGee in the first round of a scheduled 10.

Richmond's Al Scott, 196, ended his scheduled 10-rounder with Charlottesville's Thomas Jackson, 211, in the opening round.

Flip Johnson, 126, scored a TKO over Floyd Simmons, 128, in the seventh round of a scheduled 10 between Maryland natives.

Another battle between Marylanders had Frankie Swindel, 176, win an eight-round decision over Alex Stanley, 178.

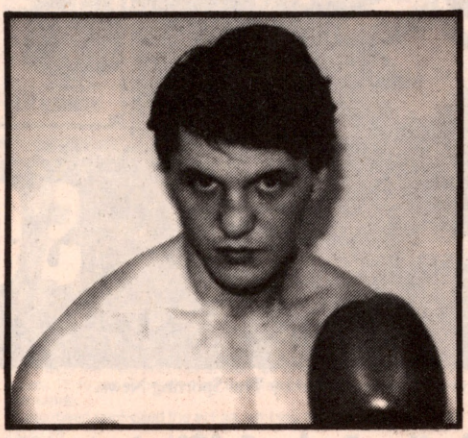
Maryland's Osley Silas, 169, scored an eight-round decision win over Richmond's Ricky Perry, 166.

Maryland's Victor Davis, 144, won a six-round decision over North Carolina's Thomas Warren, 143.

Promoter—Brown Promotions.
Referees—Green and Sahnow.
Judges—Moran and Laprade.
Timekeepers—Hall and Booker.
Physician—Bonner.
Inspector—Doug Beavers.
(3-21-87)

CANADA

BRITISH COLUMBIA



Jaime Ollenberger (above) was very lucky to win a 10-round split decision over Mario Rodriguez in Vancouver.

▶**VANCOUVER—Agrodome**—A disappointing crowd was on hand for a five-bout card featuring Canadian featherweight champion Tony Pep.

Pep was slated to defend his title against Toronto's Neadre Simmons, but illness forced Simmons to pull out at rather short notice, and lightweight John Kahlbenn filled in.

Pep, over six feet tall, towered over his 5-7 opponent, and the contrasting styles did not make a good match. There were no knockdowns in the 10-rounder, which was difficult to judge on boxing standards. The fans howled disapproval when the decision was handed down unanimously for Pep, the scores being 97-94, 97-95 and 96-94.

The 10-round, co-feature saw Vancouver welterweight Jaime Ollenberger flattered by the split decision handed him over Yakima's Mario Rodriguez. The implacable Rodriguez continually beat Ollenberger to the punch and was in control all the way. Ollenberger, 18-4-1, said after, "I would have been happy with a draw." Rodriguez is 21-6.

Surrey welterweight Al Harper took a split, six-round decision over George Sponagle of Prince George.

A middleweight six-rounder saw Vancouver's Trevor Holmes stopped Bremerton's John Burnett in the second.

Promoter—Bruce Allen.
Referee—Pat O'Reilly.
Judges—Dave Boyd, Norm McLeod and Graham Houston.
Attendance—1,300.
(2-5-87)

▶**MONTREAL—Paul Sauve Arena**—A five-bout card with nine Canadian fighters featured Toronto's Donovan Boucher, ranked sixth in the Canadian ratings, against third-ranked Denis Sigouin of Hull.

Each weighed 148 for the 10-rounder which saw Boucher turn in a fine performance, outboxing Sigouin to win a unanimous decision by scores of 99-95, 99-93 and 98-96.

A light heavyweight 10-rounder had Toronto's Tony Morrison, 180, outclass Indiana's Jerry Harris, 173, forcing referee Tony Crivello to stop the one-sided bout at the 31-second mark of the fifth round.

Lachine's Marc Richard had no problem scoring a KO at 2:51 of the fourth round over Winnipeg's Terry Jassmer. Each weighed 172.

Winnipeg's Bryon Prince, 158, posted a unanimous, six-round decision over Verdun's Jacques Deblois, 156, the scores reading 60-55, 58-57 and 58-56.

Montreal's Billy Dunlop, 126, was too much to handle for Toronto's Leonard Pinnock, 122, winning a unanimous six-rounder by votes of 59-55 (twice) and 60-54.

Promoter—George Cherry Inc.
Referees—J. Simpson, T. Crivello and G. Jutras.
Judges—M. Beaudry, Lapointe and Theroux.
Timekeepers—O. Marchessault and N. Nichilo.
Announcer—R. Rivest.
Physicians—Dr. P. Meunier and Dr. L. LeClerc.
Attendance—1,700.
(2-10-87)

▶**REGINA—Agridome**—Canadian boxing suffered another setback when Olympic Silver Medal winner Willie deWit made his national television debut only to suffer his first pro loss at the hands of Philadelphia's "Smokin'" Bert Cooper.

Cooper knocked down deWit twice in the initial round, then twice more in the second round before the fight was terminated at 2:58.

Weighing 212, deWit had a three-pound weight advantage and also had an advantage in reach over Cooper. But almost before the echo of the first bell had faded, Cooper was in front of deWit ready to let his bombs go with either hand. The Canadian was not prepared for the vigorous, relentless and aggressive pace set by the 21-year-old Cooper, whose style and technique strongly resembles that of his mentor, former world heavyweight champion Joe Frazier.

Midway through the first round, a very confident Cooper was unloading on deWit, who appeared unable to get out of punching range. Each step backward taken by deWit was followed by a step forward by Cooper.

The 60-second period between rounds was not enough for deWit to recover fully from the two knockdowns he suffered in the first round. He made an effort to fight back, but it was purely on instinct. He had little, if any idea where his punches were going. Cooper inflicted some heavy punishment, dropping deWit twice more. The last knockdown did severe damage to the face of deWit, who was flat on his face when counted out at 2:58.

For a change, no excuses for deWit's defeat were forthcoming from his management, who admitted they had underestimated Cooper and had been beaten by a better fighter. It did not take too long for the Canadian reporters to write off deWit, but they overlook the fact that deWit has a lot of pride and heart. This correspondent feels he will come back and make some of the news media eat its words.

The semifinal saw Philadelphia's Rodney Frazier have few problems before stopping former Canadian heavyweight champion Ken Lakusta of Edmonton. Lakusta was making his first start in eight months and was not sharp enough to handle the well-conditioned Frazier, who finished him at 2:08 of the fifth round.

Referee—Barney O'Conner.
Judges—D. Sutton, R. Warwicke and D. Rudge.
Announcer—K. Newans.
Attendance—7,187.
(2-14-87)

▶**TORONTO—Harbour Castle Hilton Hotel**—Shawn O'Sullivan returned to action with a unanimous, 10-round decision win over Detroit's Cortez Treadwell.

O'Sullivan, slidelined nine months with an injured right hand, took scores of 100-92, 100-93 and 99-92, but Treadwell provided a much better scrap than the cards indicate.

It was obvious the layoff had affected O'Sullivan's timing. He was the aggressor, but missed with many left hands and Treadwell more than held his own. In the third, some fine body shots by Treadwell had O'Sullivan backing up and the fighters traded punches at the bell.

As the fight progressed, O'Sullivan used his right hand very little and the few rights he did let loose carried no power. With his left, he forced the fight in close and scored with body shots and hooks to the head. Treadwell fought back and was never in serious trouble.

In the final two rounds, both appeared to tire, Treadwell surviving a couple of fast flurries to finish the fight. Though victorious, O'Sullivan suffered a cut eye that forced him to cancel his next start, which was scheduled for mid-April.

Toronto's Donavan Boucher, 148, had too much power and experience for Montana's Robin Smith, 152, stopping Smith at the 45-second mark of the fourth round.

Toronto's John Kalbhenn, 138½, stormed all over John Wright, 139½, stopping the Detroiter with a hard, overhand right to the chin at 52 seconds of the third.

Ottawa's Greg Gayle, five pounds heavier and holding an edge in height and reach, had to settle for a unanimous, six-round decision over Montreal's Leonard Pinnock. Each card read 60-54.

Promoter—Victory Promotions Inc.
Referees—Harry Davis and Fern Chretien.
Judges—C. Williams, E. Gaudet and R. Hipilito.
Timekeepers—A. Paris and F. Bullard.
Physicians—Dr. E. Palacios and Dr. A. Hacker.
Announcer—J. Wylie.
Attendance—1,500.
(3-16-87)

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▶**ST. JOHN**—Canadian light heavyweight champion Willie Featherstone of Toronto successfully defended his title, winning a 12-round, unanimous decision over former champion Roddie McDonald.

McDonald, also of Toronto, was the aggressor in the first half of the bout, but found Featherstone's defense hard to penetrate. In the second half, the champion turned things around, forcing the action.

The final four rounds had Featherstone scoring well. In the 10th, he opened a cut over the challenger's eye and McDonald was bleeding profusely from cuts and from his nose at the final bell.

There were no knockdowns, but the 5,500 fans gave both a standing ovation.

On the undercard, Toronto's Tony Morrison captured the eighth and final round to win a split decision over Mike Deveto.
(3-14-87)

▶**TORONTO—St. Lawrence Market**—A five-bout card featuring local fighters drew a near capacity crowd, but the fans had a very short evening when every bout ended in a knockout.

The main event saw Toronto's Dewith Frazer, 147, flatten Charlestown, West Virginia's Donald Gwinn, 148, in the second round.

Gwinn, ducking low and swinging wildly, was made to order for Frazer. Missing badly, Gwinn was nailed with a clean right that dropped him, and referee Fern Chretien counted him out at 2:59.

In a scheduled eight, Toronto's Rick Souce, 147, had no opposition from Buffalo's Tony Borden, 148, demolishing him at 2:45 of the initial round.

Frenchy Langlois of St. Catherines and Brantford's Wayne Halfkenny fought two spirited rounds, but Langlois suffered a severe cut eye at 42 seconds of Round Three, and ringside physician Dr. M. Sazant halted the scheduled six immediately. Langlois weighed 147, Halfkenny, 150.

In another scheduled six, Scarborough's Pat McWilliams, 135, had nothing to fear from aging Detroiter Joe Lateef, 137. Lateef lasted just 42 seconds of the mismatch.

Port Colborne's Jeff Horton, 197, made a successful pro debut with a second-round KO of Brantford's Branko Jagodic. Horton did the damage at 59 seconds with a solid right. In addition to the suspension handed down by the Ontario Athletic Commission for his knockout loss, Jagodic received an extra 30 days vacation for unsportsmanlike conduct after the bout.

Promoter—Benny D'Amico Promotions.
Judges—B. Cormier, F. Bullard and W. Trimbee.
Timekeepers—F. Shillilo and A. Paris.
Physicians—Dr. M. Sazant and A. Murray.
Attendance—1,000 (est.).
(3-27-87)

FRANK ALLNUTT

CENTRAL AMERICA

BARBADOS

▶**BRIDGETON—Barbados National Stadium**—Hometown favorite Edward "Yogi Bear" Neblett, 150, won every round to capture a unanimous, 10-round decision over Miami's Harold Williams, 150.

Neblett is 7-0.

Miami's Jimmy Navarro, 119, lived up to his high ranking with a clean knockout of Honduras' Alberto Gonzales, 120. A left hook broke Gonzales' nose and the right that followed floored him for the count at 2:49 of the first round of a scheduled 10.

In the most exciting fight of the night, Barbados' Ed Pollard, 130, won an eight-round, unanimous decision over Tampa's Troy Davis, 130. Strong sixth and seventh rounds won the fight for the hometown favorite.

Barbados' Anthony Williams, 125, won a split, eight-round decision over Terre Haute, Indiana's Jeff Hanna, 124.

In another scheduled eight, Miami's Joe Dolphin, 172, scored three knockdowns in the fifth en route to a KO at 2:16 of West Palm Beach's A.W. Muhammed, 169.

Promoter—Eric Sealy.
Matchmaker—Kevin Gersh.
Attendance—2,000 (est.).
(3-20-87)

LOUIS ZIPKIN

BAHAMAS

▶**NASSAU—Poinciana Arena**—A late rally by Pat Strachan proved the difference as the hometown favorite captured a unanimous, 10-round decision over former world light heavyweight champion Matthew Saad Muhammad.

Despite being cut over the left eye in the third round, Strachan, cheered on by the home fans, was the aggressor most of the bout, taking a 97-96 nod on the cards of judges Roger Kelty and Paul Thompson, with judge Fernly Palmer seeing it 98-97.

Saad Muhammad evaded Strachan by back-pedaling, and referee Nelson Chipman was kept busy in the early going as the two clinched time after time. The latter rounds saw the action heat up, however.

"I have nothing but respect and praise for Matthew Saad Muhammad," said Strachan, "He took me to the limit. I was determined. I was stimulated. The people elevated me. The cheers inspired me a great deal. That lifted me up."

Saad Muhammad, WBC champion from 1979 to 1981, disagreed with the decision, saying, "I was playing a cat-and-mouse game. When I cut him, I thought I had the fight. I boxed him well and made him miss. I think I won the fight, and most of the people thought I won the fight. This is his hometown, and you know how that goes. It happens all the time."

On the undercard, Stevie "The Heat" Larrimore scored a technical knockout at 42 seconds of the second round over Easy Boy Lakes. Larrimore attacked from the opening bell and never let up until Lakes' cornermen threw in the towel.
(1-30-87)

SOUTH AMERICA

COLOMBIA

▶**CARTAGENA**—Joselo Perez won the Colombian flyweight championship with a 10-round decision over Rafael Julio.

Miguel Maturana knocked out Dorismel Zuniga in the first round of a scheduled six between Colombian bantamweights.

Junior bantamweight Juan Poloperez won a six-round decision over Agustin Higirio. Both are Colombians.

Featherweight Alvaro Bohorquez stopped Luis Berrio in the fourth.

Arcelio Diaz captured a six-round nod from Gustavo Zabala in a bantamweight scrap.
(1-23-87)

▶**BARRANQUILLA**—Palenque junior welterweight Pedro Padilla knocked out the home town's Eder Gonzalez in the second round.

Barranquilla junior flyweight Francisco Tejedor stopped Cartagena's Manuel Julio in the third round.

In another junior flyweight bout, Pedro Mendoza and Rafaei Zuniga fought to an eight-round draw.

Another draw, this time a four-rounder, was fought between flyweights Ivan Iglesias and Jaime Diaz.

Junior bantamweight Robinson Garcia made quick work of Ricardo Ariza, scoring a one-round knockout.
(1-30-87)

LUIS A. GONZALEZ

EUROPE

DENMARK

▶**RANDERS**—European lightweight champion Gert Bo Jacobsen made the third successful defense of his crown with a unanimous, 12-round decision over Spanish challenger Jose Antonio Hernando.

Jacobsen controlled the action, winning 120-111, 118-111 and 120-116.

By the closing rounds, Hernando had just about packed it in and Jacobsen finished with a flourish.

European heavyweight champion Anders Eklund continued his comeback with a unanimous decision over Italy's Stefano Vassallo.

Denmark's unbeaten Racheed Lawal stopped Italy's Marco Gallo in six.

Eyrup Can, another unbeaten Dane, won a six-round decision over Italy's Giovanni Camputaro.

Lars Lund Jensen, a Danish junior lightweight, found Welshman Russell Jones a tough foe, but posted a unanimous, six-round win.

Danish light heavyweight Tage Nielsen captured a four-round decision over Zaire's Salay Moba.
(2-27-87)

FRANCE

▶**VINCENNES**—IBF junior middleweight champion Buster Drayton and future challenger Said Skouma warmed up for their March 27 title bout with easy victories over Mexican foes.

Drayton knocked out Juan Alonso Vila in two rounds of a scheduled 10, while Skouma, the former European champ, disposed of Tomas Garcia in the fourth of another scheduled 10.
(2-28-87)

GERMANY

▶**BIELEFELD—Williams/Althoff Circus Tent**—This town saw its first professional boxing show in 22 years, and promoter Fritz Buschjost must have been encouraged by the turnout of 2,800, who ignored below-freezing temperatures, snow and ice to get to the heated, 3,500-seat circus tent.

The main event saw 34-year-old Manfred Jassmann win the vacant heavyweight championship with a unanimous, 10-round decision over his 35-year-old ex-sparring partner Werner Pelz. Jassmann (35-4), the former German light heavyweight champ, became Germany's 33rd heavyweight champion since Otto Flint reigned in 1919.

Thomas Classen vacated the crown when he retired in May of 1986.

Alex Prox became Germany's 28th middleweight champion with a 10-round, split decision over Mike Wissenbach. The 24-year-old Wissenbach appeared to have an edge after six rounds, but Prox, also 24, finished strong. Perhaps a draw and a return match would have been fairer to Wissenbach.

Marco Uunerdruss, a 27-year-old welter making his pro debut, fought a four-round draw with 30-year-old Al Cinar, a Turk based in Germany with a 2-1-1 record.

In a battle of German light heavyweights, Bern Kulle remained unbeaten in four starts with a four-round decsion over 34-year-old Horst Schulze, who fell to 13-11.

Welterweight Salvador Yanez, a 22-year-old Chilean based in Germany, stopped German Mathias Wirth in four.

Holland middleweight Gilbert Hallie improved to 4-0 with a six-round decision over 27-year-old Harry Theodoss, who fell to 10-6-2.

Young Paddy Pipa, a 19-year-old junior middleweight named "Germany's Best Prospect" in 1986, won his fourth, outpointing 30-year-old Austrian Franz Hohl, a veteran of 25 fights.

Attendance: 2,800.
Promoter: AS Teuto Box Team/Fritz Buschjost.
Matchmaker: Jean Marcel Nartz.
(1-31-87)

▶**HAMBURG**—Hamburg's first professional show in three years, a twin title card with attractive preliminary bouts, drew nearly 2,000 fans.

Unfortunately, Germany's new heavyweight hope, 23-year-old Roland Runge, who compiled a 16-1 record in Australia under the name of Rudy Darno, made a right old mess of his home debut, being stopped by a 31-year-old Frenchman, Jean Chanet, in six rounds.

Runge, born to German parents in Sydney, Australia, returned home after 19 years and certainly looked like a champion in the gym. But that was as far as it got. His inability to cope with the hard-hitting Chanet saw the evening turn sour on him. In the sixth, a blow to the jaw had Runge's body lurching in one direction, his legs in another. He came to rest on the seat of his pants, but managed to beat referee Georg Grabarz' count. Chanet was on him in a flash, landing a left and right that kept Runge in trouble and forced Grabarz to pull the plug at 2:19.

Promoter/manager Wilfried Sauerland's "Black Starfish" from Zambia, 23-year-old heavyweight Mike Simuwelo, beat American southpaw Bobby Crabtree to stretch his unbeaten string to 14, 13 of the wins coming inside the distance. Crabtree came to

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fight, showing no respect of Simuwelo, but quickly ran into a right that put him down before the first round had ended. Crabtree, knocked out in one round in London by Rodney Frazier in 1984, fought back strongly in the second round, landing a couple of good punches to Simuwelo's face. But in Round Five, a left followed by a short right had Crabtree on one knee, grabbing the ropes for support, and the referee counted him out at 1:17. Crabtree's record fell to 38-27.

In two domestic championship bouts, both champions, Andreas Prox, middleweight, and Ralf Rocchigiani, cruiserweight, retained their titles. Prox defended the crown he won 27 days previously, beating 27-year-old Harald Schulte in four rounds. Schulte went down in Round Three, then again in the fourth from a right to the jaw. Grabarz counted him out, though Schulte claimed he beat the count. The 23-year-old Rocchigiani faced Aex Zeh, who proved a worthy challenger though 35 years old. When the 10 rounds concluded, the judges were divided, creating a draw.

At super welterweight, Salvador Yanez, a Chilean fighting out of Germany, beat 30-year-old Austrian Franz Hohl, Grabarz stopping the bout in the third round on humanitarian grounds after Hohl had taken a standing eight. The 22-year-old Yanez is 5-0.

At welterweight, the Hamburg-based Turk, 20-year-old Zentin Kose, made his pro debut with a four-round decision over Klaus Heing, who, at 41, is Germany's oldest active boxer.

The "Wunderkind" from Germany, 19-year-old welter Young Paddy Pipa, registered his fifth-straight win, a six-round decision over Luxembour's Alaoui Aziz.

Attendance: 2,000.
Promoter/Matchmaker: H. Pedersen.
Judge: Dieter Schneider.
Timekeepers: Felix Fehlhaber, Harald Hammerich.
Ring Announcer: Herbert Kranz.
(2-27-87)

▶**NOTES**—Spanish-born southpaw Jose Varela holds the German and European welterweight championships and currently boasts a 25-bout win streak. Varela missed almost a year of action when he chopped off his left thumb, wrapped it in a handkerchief and called at the local hospital to have it sewn back on. Several comeback wins, including his October stoppage of France's Brahim Messaoudi for the vacant European title, indicate the 26-year-old's punching power has not been affected by the injury . . . Graciano Rocchiqiani still shows promise, but some of brother Ralf's glamor has worn off. The 22-year-old Graciano won the German light heavy title in October, stopping Manfred Jassmann on cuts to up his record to 18-0. Graciano was expected to challenge Holland's Alex Blanchard for the European crown in April, but injured his right hand. Ralf, who holds the German cruiser title, lost and drew with Jassmann, then turned in a miserable challenge against Blanchard, losing on points to drop to 17-3-2 . . . German lightweight champion Rene Weller served as European champion for almost three years until losing on cuts to Dane Gert Bo Jacobsen in January. The controversial finish warranted a return, but Jacobsen has kept busy fighting less dangerous opposition and the EBU put no pressure on him to face Weller again. Weller will be 34 in November and it is only a question of time before he calls it a day . . . German light middleweight champion, 30-year-old Erwin Heiber, certainly deserves a shot at the Euro championship.

JACK TREE

ITALY

▶**FORLI**—Italy's Valerio Nati captured the vacant European featherweight title, stopping French champion Marc Armand in the second round of a scheduled 12.

British referee Sid Nathan stopped the fight after consulting with the ringside doctor concerning a bad cut on the right eyelid of Armand. The cut, which was deep, appeared after an accidental clash of heads.

Up until the sudden conclusion, Nati, who held the EBU bantam crown in 1981-82, was forcing the action, with Armand fighting back, particularly with left uppercuts.
(2-13-87)

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UNITED KINGDOM

▶**LONDON—York Hall**—Liverpool's Gary Stretch stopped Poplar's Winston Wray in the second round.

Referee Larry O'Connell intervened at 2:42 with Wray cut by the left eye and under pressure. Each weighed 156 for the scheduled eight.

Cardiff's Kevin Mortimer, 147, stopped Wandsworth's Jimmy Harrison, 148½, referee Ritchie Davies calling a halt at 1:41 of Round Three. Harrison was under pressure, but protested the stoppage.

Swansea's Kevin Roper, 164, outpointed Feltham's Roy White, 161½, over six twos, Davies scoring it 59½-59.

O'Connell turned in the same score after Birmingham's Del Bryan, 146¾, and Darren Dyer, 148¼, finished six rounds. Bryan got the nod, though down in Round Three, and many thought Dyer deserved at least a share.

Bellingham's Wayne Weekes, 134, won every round to outpoint Plumstead's Steve Higgins, 136, over six twos. O'Connell scored 60-57.

Maidenhead's Roy Horne, 152, narrowly outscored Swansea's Rocky Reynolds, 154, Davies calling it 59-58½ after six twos.
(1-8-87)

▶**GLASGOW—Whitbread Sporting Club**—Glasgow's Joe Kelley, 114, scored a three-round win over Rhyl's Gypsy Johnny, 113¾.

Referee Arnold Bryson stopped the match at 2:59 after Johnny had been down five times.

Gypsy Carman, a 196-pounder from Norwich, outpointed Bristol's Patrick Collins, 188½, over eight twos, referee Len Mullen scoring it 79-78.

Glasgow's Joe Duffy, 125½, won a six-round decision over Aberdeen's John Leys, 125, Mullen calling it 59-58½.
(1-11-87)

▶**MANCHESTER—Anglo American Sporting Club**—Chorley's Nigel Crook, 121, outpointed Manchester's Gerry McBride, 120, referee Harry Warner's card showing 79-78 after eight twos.

Manchester's G.L. Booth, 154, spoiled the debut of Huddersfield's Ian Midwood-Tate, 150, getting Warner's 59-58½ vote after six twos.

Les Gilbert, 135, didn't lose a round in outpointing Doncaster's Dave Croft, 137, referee Keith Garner scoring 60-58 after six.

Liverpool debutant Paul Jarriott, 137, also didn't lose a round, outpointing Alfreton's Barry Bacon, 136, over six. Garner scored 60-57½.
(1-11-87)

▶**LONDON—Ealing Northern Sports Center**—Ealing's Ivan Joseph, 200, made it four straight by outpointing Burnt Oak's Barry Ellis, 208, over eight twos.

Referee Dave Parris scored 79½-78.

Fulham's Andrew Furlong, 135, drew over eight twos with Islington's Chubby Martin, 136.

Eltham's Mark Dinnadge, 144, stopped Swansea debutant Tony Britland, 147, referee Paddy Sower callling a halt at 42 seconds of Round Three of the scheduled six twos with Britland under pressure.

Any Till of Northolt made it four straight by stopping Tony Lawrence of Petersborough at 1:29 of the fourth of a scheduled six twos. Parris intervened after Lawrence had been down three times. Each weighed 160.

Aldgate's Paul Gadney, 131½, outpointed Telford's George Jones, 132, Sower casting a 59½-58 verdict after six twos.
(1-11-87)

▶**OLDHAM—Sports Centre**—Undefeated Brian Schumaker, 173½, didn't lose a round in outpointing Manchester's Jonjo Greene, 178, over eight rounds.

Referee Ron Hackett called it 80-77.

Joe Jacobs also remained unbeaten, outpointing Bradford's Craig Walsh over eight twos. Referee Brian Hogg scored 79½-77½ for Jacobs who, at 138, spotted his opponent four pounds.

Robert Armstrong of Doncaster ended nearly a year of inactivity with a six-round decision over Seamus Casey of Alfreton. Referee Phil Cowsill scored 59-58½ for Armstrong, who avenged a previous loss. Each weighed 156.

Rhyl's Edward Lloyd, 130½, outpointed Liverpool's Sugar Gibiliru, 137, Hogg's card showing 79-77½ after eight twos. Gibiliru was down in the fifth.

Tony Ekubia of Manchester stopped Paul McKenzie of Peckham at 1:15 of the third. Each weighed 142.

West Ham's Roy Rowlands, 145, outpointed Alfreton's Ray Golding, 144, Hogg scoring 59½-58½ after six.
(1-14-87)

▶**BELFAST—Kings Hall**—European middleweight champion Herol Graham kept his unbeaten record and confirmed his ranking as a world contender when American Charlie Boston retired at the end of Round Seven.

Boston was down in Round Four, bled from the nose and mouth and, in the final stages, could do little but try and defend himself. Graham, 161½, impressed with his sharp punching and once he got his man going never let him off the hook. Boston, 161, was outboxed, outfought and out-maneuvered.

Birmingham's Rocky Lawlor, 122½, stopped Larne's Roy Webb, 122, referee Roland Dakin intervening in Round Seven after Webb had been down three times.

Former ABA amateur champion Paul Hodkinson, 127½, kayoed Steve Sims, 131¼, with a right hand at 1:30 of the fifth round of a scheduled eight. Hodkinson, in only his fifth start, impressed against the former British titleholder.

Belfast's Rocky McGran, 162, outpointed Hanwell's Ray White, 161¼, over six.

Another Belfast battler, Eamonn McAuley, 133½, stopped Croydon's Les Remikie, 133¼, when Remikie, bleeding from his nose and under pressure, was retired by his corner at the end of Round Two of a scheduled six.

Croydon's Pat Doherty, 132, was stopped in the fourth round by Mexican Rafael Gandarilla, 130, due to a cut left eye.

In a battle of debutants that produced nobbins, Belfast's Alan McCullough, 126, won a six-round decision over London's Terry Smith, 130½.
(1-17-87)

▶**LONDON—National Sporting Club**—Islington's Michael Watson, 160¾, continued to impress, stopping Ian Chantler of St. Helens.

Chantler, 161¼, was retired by his corner at the end of Round Four of the scheduled eight. Chantler injured his right arm but had been down in the fourth from a good right hand.

Nottingham's Errol McDonald, 144½, kept his unbeaten record by knocking out Brighton's Mark Simpson, 148, at 1:52 of the fifth of a scheduled eight twos. Simpson had been down twice previously.

Sheffield's Johnny Nelson, 182, outpointed Wisbech's Gypsy Carman, 189½, referee Nick White scoring 59½-58 over six twos. Carman was down twice.

Albert Parr, 119-pounder from St. Helens, stopped Luton's Stuart Fischer, 122, White calling a halt at 1:40 of Round Two of the scheduled six twos.
(1-19-87)

▶**GLASGOW—St. Andrews Sporting Club**—A left to the jaw by Croy's Pat Clinton, 117½, stopped Derry's Sean Casey, 118½, at 23 seconds of the sixth round.

Irvine's Alex Mullen, 162½, didn't lose a round in outpointing Cardiff's Winston Burnett, 164, referee Len Mullen scoring 60-58 after six twos.

Alex' brother, John, didn't fare as well, though, lasting just 23 seconds against Cardiff's Mervyn Bennett. Bennett weighed 134½, Mullen 137¾ for the scheduled six twos.

Irvine's Jim Moffat, 134¼, scored a narrow win over Glasgow's Willie Doherty, 137, Mullen scoring 59-58½ after six twos.
(1-19-87)

▶**NEWPORT—Leisure Centre**—Ghana featherweight champion Jeff Roberts substituted on just a few hours notice, but prevailed over Garndiffaith's Andy Williams.

Referee Denzil Lewis scored the eight-rounder 79½-78 for Roberts, who weighed 133 compared to Williams' 141½. Williams was cut by the left eye in Round Two.

The vacant Welsh middleweight title was grabbed by Senghenydd's Denys Cronin, 158, who scored a two-round stoppage of Welsh light middleweight champion Steve Davies of Pembroke. Referee Ivor Bassett intervened after Davies had been down three times.

David Griffith of Cardiff returned after nearly a year's absense to stop Kelvin Mortimer of Rhondda at 1:55 of the fifth of a scheduled eight twos. Each weighed 144.

Rhydyfelin's Adrian Staples, 122, outpointed Swansea's Carl Perry, 123, 59½-59 after six twos.

Gloucester's Mark Purcell, 143½, scored a fifth-round stoppage of Cardiff's Kevin Hayde, 144, in a scheduled six twos. Hayde had been down three times when referee Mike Heatherwick stepped in at 0:49.
(1-20-87)

▶**STOKE—North Staffs Sporting Club**—Rhyl's Rocky Feliciello, 154, won an eight-round decision over Birmingham's Ian Murray, 152, referee John Coyle scoring 79-77.

Preston debutant Paul Burke, 138, kayoed Birmingham's Steve Brown, 134, at 1:42 of the fourth of a scheduled six twos.

Wolverhapton's Cecil Branch didn't have as much success in his debut, being knocked down three times and stopped at 1:12 of Round Four by Coventry's Kesom Clayton, 148.

Rhyll's John Drummond, 125, avenged an earlier loss with a decision win over Birmingham's Billy Cawley, 128, Coyle scored 59-58 after six twos.
(1-21-87)

▶**SOLIHULL—Midlands Sporting Club**—An eight-month layoff didn't bother former British and European featherweight and super featherweight champion Pat Cowdell, who returned with a points win over Southern Area lightweight champ Mike Durvan of Penge.

Cowdell, 132¾ to Durvan's 134, swept every round of the 10-rounder, winning 100-96 on the card of referee John Keane.

A scheduled eight saw Croydon's Tony Burke, 162½, stop Birmingham's Tony Meszaros, 161½, in the fifth. Meszaros was down in the first and on wobbly legs when Keane stopped it.

Manchester's Joe Jacobs, 138¼, confirmed a previous win, outpointing Nottingham's Tony Richards, 138½, referee Terry O'Connor casting it 79½-77 after eight twos.

Birmingham's Hugh Forde, 133, outpointed Bradford's Craig Walsh, 137¾, O'Connor scoring 79½-77½ after eight twos.

Greenock's Frank Monkhouse, 127, outscored Birmingham's Mark Bignall, 125¾, O'Connor showing 59-58½ after six twos.
(1-21-87)

▶**STOKE—European Sporting Club**—Telford's George Jones, at 131 five pounds lighter than his opponent, outpointed Brixton's Lee West over eight twos, referee Paul Thomas calling it 78½-78.

Camberwell's Gary McConnell, 214, spoiled the debut of 196-pound Paul Sheldon, stopping the Alfreton resident in 54 seconds of a scheduled six twos.

Telford's Johnny Elliott, 160, beat Alfreton's Dave Mowbray, 162, when Mowbray retired with a cut right eye at the end of Round Two of the scheduled six twos.

Alfreton's Nick Vardy, 167, outpointed Burton's Floyd Davidson, 168, Thomas scoring 59-58½ after six twos.
(1-21-87)

▶**LONDON—York Hall**—Two unbeatens faced off when Camden Town's 147-pound David Dent took on Birmingham's 151-pound Wally Swift Jr.

Referee Sid Nathan gave Dent his 12th victory, scoring the eight-rounder 79-78.

Swift was unbeaten in 11 previous bouts, fighting under his mother's maiden name of Reynolds. But he took the fight at short notice and tired in the latter stages. Given time to prepare properly, Swift would doubtless welcome a return.

Mickey Hughes of St. Pancras stopped Simon Paul of Hackney, referee Tony Walker intervening in Round Two of the scheduled eight after Paul had been floored by a right. Each weighed 149.

Kilburn's Brian Nickels, 135½, easily outpointed Hammersmith's Andrew Furlong, 133½, Walker calling it 79-77½ after eight twos.

Camberwell's Derek Angel, 184½, won every round from Cardiff's Abner Blackstock, 184, to gain the decision after six twos.

Nottingham's Chris Walker, 173, outpointed Birmingham's Paul Murray, 168, Walker scoring 39½-39 after four twos.

Hartford's Wally Jarvis, 121, and Dagenham's Roy Deeble, 125, finished four, two-minute rounds even.

(1-22-87)

▶**BRADFORD—Yorkshire Executive Sporting Club**—Seamus Casey of Alfreton scored an eight-round decision over Morley's Richard Wagstaff.

Referee Harry Warner scored 78½-78 for Casey, who weighed 154, four pounds more than Wagstaff.

Kevin Spratt of Leeds remained undefeated with a decision over Brian Murphy of Glasgow. Referee Keith Garner scored 59½-58½ after six twos. Each weighed 138.

Chorley's Peter Crook, 139½, didn't lose a round in outpointing Holytown's Willie McDonald, 147, Warner scoring 60-57½ after six.

Manchester's Les Gilbert, 137, narrowly outscored Kirkcaldy's John Townsley, 136½, Garner scoring 59-58½ after six.

(1-26-87)

▶**NOTTINGHAM—Albany Hotel**—Birmingham's Derek Armory posted an eight-round decision win over Tony Heath, 122, referee John Coyle scoring it 78½-78.

Bellingham's Wayne Weekes, 127, outpointed Sheffield's Gary Maxwell, 132, Coyle scoring 59½-58.

Leicester's Mark Watts, 170, won a six-round, 59½-57½ decision from Derby's Ian Whitehead, 174.

Birmingham's Young Gully, 144, stopped debutant Johnny Hooks, 143½, at 49 seconds of the second round after Hooks had been down three times.

(1-26-87)

▶**LEAMINGTON—Royal Star Centre**—It should have been a wonderful night for the first promotion in nearly 20 years in the home town of the late, great Randolph Turpin, but unlucky promoter Joe Jackson was seriously handicapped by late withdrawals and the late arrivals of some boxers. Consequently, there was just 16 minutes and 19 seconds of actual boxing, not including one exhibition. Promoter Jackson deserves better than this, and it is hoped he will be able to try again with a bit of good luck next time.

Colin Lynch of Coventry had a quick pro debut when he floored Camden Town's John Devine three times for a 38-second win.

Referee Paul Thomas didn't bother to count after the third knockdown, ending the bout which was scheduled for six twos. Each weighed 128.

Jim Beckett of Essex also ended his match in a hurry, stopping Adrian Bush of Leamington in 1:52. Thomas halted the match, scheduled for six twos, after Bush had been floored by a left hook. Each weighed 146.

Doug Calderwoood of Sheffield stopped Coventry's Leon Thomas in 1:40 after Thomas had been down twice. Each weighed 160 for the scheduled six twos.

In the only bout that went the distance, Davey Hughes, 129½, outpointed Lamby Kahani, 129, over six twos, 59½-58½.

(1-26-87)

▶**NEWCASTLE—Mayfair Ballroom**—Dave Garside, 212, outpointed Frenchman Louis Pergaud, 202, over eight rounds, referee Arnold Bryson scoring it 79-78½.

The verdict was greeted with booing, and Garside, who won his eighth straight, said after he wasn't at his best due to a recent bout with the flu.

Anfield Plain's Glenn McCrory, 187, made his debut as a cruiserweight, outpointing Manchester's Danny Lawford, 188, over eight twos.

Newcastle's Paul Lister, 203, outpointed Clapham's Barry Alfreton over six twos, Bryson calling it 59½-58½. Each weighed 156.

Kendal's Alvin Finch, 133, stopped Gateshead's Vince Wilson, 130, at 20 seconds of the fourth round of a scheduled six twos after Wilson had been down twice.

(2-5-87)

▶**SOUTHAMPTON—Guildhall**—Southampton's Peter Bunting, 187, kayoed Cardiff's Danny Hassan, 190, at 1:56 of Round Three of a scheduled eight.

A scheduled six saw debutant Steve McCarthy of Southampton kayo Brighton's Russell Burnett in 55 seconds. Each weighed 162.

Andrew Deabreu of Cardiff scored a six-round decision over Southampton's Paul Taylor, referee Paddy Sower scoring 59½-58½.

Each weighed 131.

(2-5-87)

▶**CARDIFF—St. Davids Hall**—British lightweight champion Tony Willis, 136½, scored an eight-round decision over Swansea's Keith Parry, 135½, referee Adrian Morgan scoring it 79-77½.

Cardiff's David Griffiths, 144, stoped Mexico's Sergio Valles, 142, with seven seconds remaining in Round Six, Morgan calling a halt with Valles under pressure.

Leicester's Shaun Cummins, 158, outpointed Gloucester's Rob Thomas, 156, referee Roddy Evans casting it 79-78 after eight twos.

Blantyre's Craig Windsor, 130, was forced to retire with a cut left eye at the close of the first round of his match with Rhyl's Eddie Lloyd, 129½.

(2-9-87)

▶**GLASGOW—Whitbread Sporting Club**—Glasgow's Brian Holmes, 115¾, didn't lose a round in outpointing Kevin Downer, 117¾. Referee Billy Rafferty scored the eight-rounder 80-78 for Holmes, who floored Downer briefly in Round Three.

Leicester's Nigel Senior, 128, kayoed Glasgow's Joe Duffy, 126, at the end of the fourth of a scheduled six, Duffy having hit the deck twice.

Glasgow debutant John Carlin, 125¾, didn't lose a round in outpointing Leicester's Mitchell King, 127, referee Arnold Bryson

WORLD RATINGS
BY THE INTERNATIONAL BOXING FEDERATION
(As of February 3, 1987)

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Michael Spinks (U.S.)
1. Tony Tucker (U.S.)
2. James Douglas (U.S.)
3. Carl Williams (U.S.)
4. James Broad (U.S.)
5. Tyrell Biggs (U.S.)
6. Tony Tubbs (U.S.)
7. Tim Witherspoon (U.S.)
8. Gerry Cooney (U.S.)
9. Trevor Berbick (Canada)
10. Greg Page (U.S.)
11. Elijah Tillery (U.S.)
12. Larry Alexander (U.S.)

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Champion
Ricky Parkey (U.S.)
1. Bernard Benton (U.S.)
2. Boone Pultz (U.S.)
3. Dwight Muhammad Qawi (U.S.)
4. Lee Roy Murphy (U.S.)
5. Bert Cooper (U.S.)
6. Henry Tillman (U.S.)
7. Dorcey Gaymon (U.S.)
8. Chisanda Mutti (Zambia)
9. Alfonzo Ratliff (U.S.)
10. Bashiru Ali (U.S.)
11. Jose Flores (Uruguay)
12. Osvaldo Ocasio (Puerto Rico)

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Bobby Czyz (U.S.)
1. Slobadan Kacar (Yugoslavia)
2. Willie Edwards (U.S.)
3. Leslie Stewart (Trinidad)
4. Charles Williams (U.S.)
5. Richard Caramanolis (France)
6. Alex Blanchard (Nethherlands)
7. Jeff Lampkin (U.S.)
8. Jim McDonald (U.S.)
9. Jean Marie Emebe (Cameroon)
10. Joe Lasisi (Nigeria)
11. Juan Roldan (Argentina)
12. Virgil Hill (U.S.)

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Chong-Pal Park (Korea)
1. Lindell Holmes (U.S.)
2. Don LaLonde (Canada)
3. Mustafa Hamsho (U.S.)
4. Marvin Mack (U.S.)
5. Nicky Walker (U.S.)
6. Frank Winterstein (France)
7. Luigi Minchillo (Italy)
8. Yombo Araka (Cameroon)
9. Chuck Walker (U.S.)
10. Doug Sam (Australia)
11. Vincent Boulware (U.S.)
12. Lamont Kirkland (U.S.)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Marvin Hagler (U.S.)
1. Thomas Hearns (U.S.)
2. Michael Olajide (Canada)
3. Robbie Sims (U.S.)
4. Iran Barkley (U.S.)
5. James Kinchen (U.S.)
6. Herol Graham (Great Britain)
7. Michael Nunn (U.S.)
8. Frank Tate (U.S.)
9. Troy Darrell (U.S.)
10. Sumbu Kalambay (Italy)
11. Darnell Knox (U.S.)
12. Don Lee (U.S.)

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Buster Drayton (U.S.)
1. Matthew Hilton (Canada)
2. In-Chul Baek (Korea)
3. Carlos Santos (Puerto Rico)
4. Donald Curry (U.S.)
5. Davey Moore (U.S.)
6. Milton McCropry (U.S.)
7. Julian Jackson (Virgin Islands)
8. Lupe Aquino (U.S.)
9. John Mugabi (Uganda)
10. Mark Medal (U.S.)
11. John David Jackson (U.S.)
12. Ramon Abeldano (Argentina)

WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Lloyd Honeyghan (Great Britain)
1. Johnny Bumphus (U.S.)
2. Marlon Starling (U.S.)
3. Tommy Ayers (U.S.)
4. Maurice Blocker (U.S.)
5. David Hilton (Canada)
6. Simon Brown (U.S.)
7. Mark Breland (U.S.)
8. Yung-Kil Chung (Korea)
9. Tyrone Trice (U.S.)
10. Miguel Arroyo (Argentina)
11. Jun-Sok Hwang (Korea)
12. Luis Santana (U.S.)

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Joe Manley (U.S.)
1. Frankie Warren (U.S.)
2. Eung-Shik Kim (Korea)
3. Buddy McGirt (U.S.)
4. Gary Hinton (U.S.)
5. Sang-Ho Lee (U.S.)
6. Terry Marsh (Great Britain)
7. Reyes Cruz (Dominican Republic)
8. Kyung-Duk Ahn (Korea)
9. Akio Kameda (Japan)
10. John Meekins (U.S.)
11. Andrew Nance (U.S.)
12. Harold Brazier (U.S.)

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Greg Haugen (U.S.)
1. Juan Nazario (Puerto Rico)
2. Jimmy Paul (U.S.)
3. Terrence Alli (U.S.)
4. Frankie Randall (U.S.)
5. Darryl Tyson (U.S.)
6. Pernell Whitaker (U.S.)
7. Meldrick Taylor (U.S.)
8. Livingston Bramble (U.S.)
9. Irleis Perez (U.S.)
10. Miguel Santana (Puerto Rico)
11. Vincent Pazienza (U.S.)
12. Angel Hernandez (Puerto Rico)

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champion
Barry Michael (Australia)
1. Johnny de la Rosa (U.S.)
2. Rocky Lockridge (U.S.)
3. Chil-sung Chun (Korea)
4. Geron Porras (Philippines)
5. Kenny Baysmore (U.S.)
6. Sung-Yun Kim (Korea)
7. Mario Miranda (Colombia)
8. Daniel Londas (France)
9. Hang Park (Korea)
10. John Sichula (Zambia)
11. Lester Ellis (Australia)
12. John Duplessis (U.S.)

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Antonio Rivera (Puerto Rico)
1. Kwon Churl (Korea)
2. Calvin Grove (U.S.)
3. Tyrone Downes (Trinidad)
4. Bernard Taylor (U.S.)
5. Cha-Suk Oh (Korea)
6. Bobby Berna (Philippines)
7. Jean Marc Renard (Belgium)
8. Jae-Yong Hwang (Korea)
9. Hirohomi Minami (Japan)
10. Barry McGuigan (Ireland)
11. Min-Keun Oh (Korea)
12. Mauro Gutierrez (Mexico)

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
Champion
Seung-Hoon Lee (Korea)
1. Greg Richardson (U.S.)
2. Jorge Diaz (U.S.)
3. Daniel Blanco (Colombia)
4. Yong-Woon Park (Korea)
5. Prayunsak Muangsurin (Thailand)
6. Ki-Yung Chung (Korea)
7. Yun-Kap Choi (Korea)
8. Chan-Hung Park (Korea)
9. Little Holmes (Indonesia)
10. Ramon Dominguez
11. Jose Meneses (Panama)
12. Jesse Benavides (U.S.)

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion
Vacant
1. Ki-Yul Kang (Korea)
2. Francisco Alvarez (Colombia)
3. Kelvin Seabrooks (US)
4. Jose Sanabria (US)
5. Jun Liano (Philippines)
6. Azael Moran (Panama)
7. Hurley Snead (US)
8. Antoine Montero (France)
9. Miguel Maturana (Colombia)
10. Luis Curtis (U.S.)
11. Darrell Thigpen (U.S.)
12. Jimmy Navarro (U.S.)

JUNIOR BANTAMWEIGHTS
Champion
Elly Pical (Indonesia)
1. Tae-Il Chang (Korea)
2. Byung-Kwan Chung (Korea)
3. Soon-Chun Kwon (Korea)
4. Cesar Polanco (Dominican Rep.)
5. Ki-Chang Kim (Korea)
6. Raul Diaz (Colombia)
7. Satoshi Shingaki (Japan)
8. Juan Polo (Columbia)
9. Miko Uchita (Japan)
10. Dae-Yong Park (Korea)
11. Mauro Diaz (Mexico)
12. Dong-Choon Lee (Korea)

FLYWEIGHTS
Champion
Hi-Sup Shin (Korea)
1. Bi-Wong Chung (Korea)
2. Orlando Bohol (Philippines)
3. Fidel Bassa (Colombia)
4. Thanosak Singbobe (Thailand)
5. Ramon Medal (U.S.)
6. Romy Navarrete (Philippines)
7. Frank Cedeno (Philippines)
8. Rae-Ki Ahn (Korea)
9. Hiroshi Murozumi (Japan)
10. Dodi Penalosa (Philippines)
11. Oh-Kong Son (Korea)
12. Rafael Caban (Puerto Rico)

JUNIOR FLYWEIGHTS
Championship
Jum-Hwan Choi (Korea)
1. Rodolfo Blanco (Colombia)
2. Augustino Garcia (Colombia)
3. Isidro Perez (Mexico)
4. Cho-Woon Park (Korea)
5. Tacy Macalos (Philippines)
6. Anhar Azadin (Indonesia)
7. Virgilio Chifundo (Panama)
8. Mario DeMarco (Mexico)
9. Jae-Suk Park (Korea)
10. Kyong-Jae Chang (Korea)
11. Benedicto Murillo (Panama)
12. Rex Ikeda (Japan)

MINI FLYWEIGHTS
Championship
Vacant
1. Kyung-Yon Lee (Korea)
2. Masharu Kawskami (Japan)
3. Boy Lucas (Philippines)
4. Edwin Inocencio (Philippines)
5. Samuth Sithnarvepol (Thailand)
6. Julius Leojan (Indonesia)
7. Eric Chavez (Philippines)
8. Jun Afable (Philippines)
9. Nana Suhana (Indonesia)
10. Thanjai Kiatthavatchai (Thailand)
11. Ronnie Vallescas (Philippines)
12. Nick Dalisay (Philippines)

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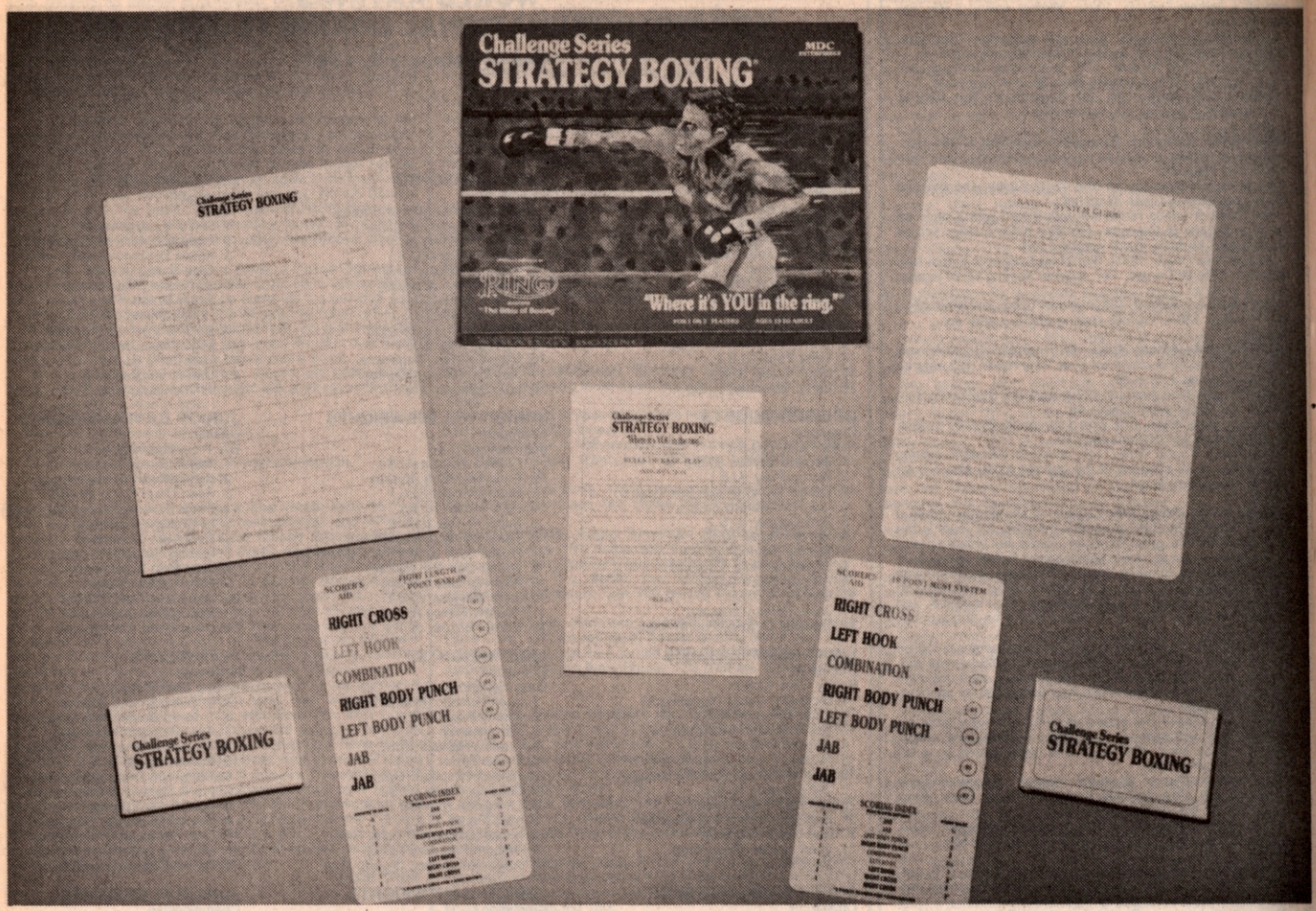

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scoring 60-58½ after the six twos.
(2-09-87)

▶**MANCHESTER**—Chorley's Peter Crook, 138, outpointed Doncaster's Dean Bramhald, 138¼, referee Brian Hogg scoring the eight-rounder 79-77½.

Les Gilbert of Manchester won his fourth straight, decisioning Michael Betts of Norwich over six twos. Referee Keith Garner scored the bout 59-58½. Each weighed 138.

Garner also scored 59-58½ for the six twos between Norwich's Oliver Henry, 148, and Manchester's G.L. Booth, Henry getting the nod.

Wayne Goult, 138, drew with debutant Simon Hunter, 136, over six twos, Hunter going down in Round Three, Goult in Round Four.
(2-9-87)

RON OLVER

ORIENT

INDONESIA

▶**SURABAYA**—Vallentino, the Indonesian Commission's top junior middleweight contender, scored a fine knockout over Supiriyo, the IBC's No. 2 welterweight, in the seventh of a scheduled eight.

Vallentino weighed 151¾, Supiriyo, 146½.

Jimmy Suyono, the IBC's No. 10 junior flyweight, decisioned Little Pono in eight. Suyono weighed 106¾, Pono 109¼.

Promoter—L. Pang Sunaryo.

Attendance—2,000.
(1-17-87)

▶**JAKARTA**—Venezuela's Orlando Orozco took the WBC junior championship in the welterweight division by outscoring Indonesian champion Kai Siong over 12.

Risanti scored a 10-round decision over Jack Murdi, the IBC's No. 9 bantam.

Margo Sitomplu outpointed Kohrudin in 10.

The IBC's No. 2 junior flyweight, Tubagus Jaya, drew with Risdianto in eight.

Alex Rabadeta knocked out Yoyo in the fourth of a scheduled eight.

Promoter—Dr. H. Herman Sarens Soediro.
(1-23-87)

▶**JAKARTA**—Jorge Ampro of the Dominican Republic finished Indonesian Suwarno to become the first WBC junior champion in the super welterweight class.

Ampro ended the scheduled 12-rounder in the fourth.

Aswan Abubakar, Indonesia's top-ranked middleweight, stopped Guritno, the No. 4 contender, in the seventh of a scheduled 10.

Thomas Americo, who challenged Saoul Mamby for the WBC super lightweight title in 1981, outscored Eduardo Brinales over 10. Americo is Indonesia's second-ranked junior welterweight.

Promoter—Dr. H. Herman Sarens Soediro.
(1-24-87)

▶**GRESIK**—Pulo Sugaray caught Monod and polished him off in the first round of a scheduled 10. Sugaray weighed 134, Monod 129½.

Indonesian junior welterweight champion Wongso Indrajit retained his title by stopping Young in the sixth of a scheduled 12. Each weighed 115.

National mini-flyweight champ John Arief won a 10-round decision from Demi.

Little Pono, 110¼, scored a 10-round decision over Hudi, 106½.

Michael Arthur, 111¼, won from Agus Rais, 110¼, in eight.

Promoter—Lukman Hakim.

Attendance—4,000.
(1-25-87)

▶**PADANG**—Johannes Matahemual, Indonesian bantamweight king, barely kept his crown as he was held to a 12-round draw by Sapulette. The champion weighed 118, the challenger, 116¾.

Middleweight champ Polly Pasireron, 157¾, kept his title by stopping Aswan, 154½, in the fifth of a scheduled 12.

Boy Kelung, 120¼, scored an eight-round decision over Pipinoo Sihombing, 116¾.

Promoter—Amar Singh.
(2-7-87)

▶**JAKARTA**—Filipino flyweight champ Romy Navarrette dropped a 10-round decision to Ryan Toha, the IBC's second-ranked bantam.

Ex-Filipino titlist Jun Resma utilized his southpaw style and outpointed Little Holmes, the IBC's top junior featherweight contender, in 10.

Featherweight Mancine Kasangke decisioned Daud Jordan in 10.

Bantamweight Alocius Cry won an eight-round nod from Yudi Priyanto.

Junior bantam Okky Petrus scored a six-round win over Mulya Gana.

Featherweight Refly Suit stopped Albert Soeoinsong in six.

Promoter—Tinton Soeprapto.
(2-8-87)

JOE KOIZUMI AND LAKSONO

JAPAN

▶**TOKYO—Korakuen Hall**—Nineteen-year-old Naoto Takahashi scored a spectacular, fifth-round of defending champion Mitsuo Imazato to win the Japanese bantamweight championship.

Imazato, a Beatle-haired, unorthodox puncher, was shorter but, at 118, a pound heavier than his challenger. Takahashi, 11-0 with seven knockouts, used his reach to score with a fast left jab and at the close of Round Three scored with a triple right to the temple that had the 25-year-old champ at bay. Imazato tried to regain his usual pace with roundhouse rallies, but the effort was in vain.

In the fifth, Takahshi dropped his victim with a smashing right followed by a right uppercut. Imazato barely regained his feet only to be met by several combinations and a Takahashi left hook that sank him once again. The champion, who fell to 22-10 with 12 knockouts, made it up, but his manager, Fighting Harada, saved him from further punishment at 2:31.

Takahashi, who graduated from high school just 10 months ago, seems to be a very bright prospect. He is handled by veteran manager Kashiro Abe.

In supporting six, Kazuya Kano. 121½, TKO'd Kanichiro Kojo, 122, at 1:51 of the fifth round.

Kazuhiro Shimamoto, a former All-Japan high school champion, utilized his southpaw style and made a fine pro debut with a shutout, four-round decision over Kunio Nokata. Shimamoto weighed 111¾ to Nokata's 110¼.

Promoter—Toa Fighting Promotions.

Television—Nippon TV.

Referee—Masakazu Uchida.

Attendance—2,680.
(2-1-87)

▶**NAGOYA—Nagoya City Public Hall**—In a battle to end losing streaks, Tricky "Noboru" Kawaguchi, 143¼, stopped Minoru Kujo, 141¼, at 1:58 of the second round of a scheduled 10.

Kawaguchi, the Japanese Commission's fourth-ranked welterweight, was winless in his previous five fights, including one draw, while Kujo, the JBC's seventh-ranked junior welterweight, went in with three straight losses.

Kujo proved to have a chin made of china, going down twice in the opening session before being knocked unconcious for about five minutes in the second frame. Kawaguchi improved to 9-14-2 with four KOs, while Kujo slipped to 11-11 with six KOs.

A supporting 10 had Kyushu's Shinji Kobayashi held to a controversial, 10-round draw by Nagoya's Kojiro Sasaki. Each weighed 132¼. Kobayashi is 8-4-2 with six knockouts, while Sasaki is 15-24-11 with seven KOs.

Promoter—Midori and Hiraiwa gyms.
(1-31-87)

▶**TOKYO—Korakuen Hall**—Seiji Tomari, the WBC's sixth-ranked light flyweight, failed to impress the crowd though he caught trialhorse Masaru Yoshimoto and flattened him at 2:51 of the sixth round of a scheduled 10.

The 22-year-old Tomari recklessly mixed with the shorter Yoshimnoto, dropping the loser with fifth-round body shots before stretching him with a solid left hook in the next session. Each weighed 110¼.

Despite being off for five years and two months, former top-ranked Japanese junior lightweight contender Katsuji Sano looked amazingly sharp in returning to stop Yoshito Kumakawa at 20 seconds of the third round of a scheduled eight. Surprisingly, the 38-year-old Sano, who matched Kumakawa's 130 pounds, appeared stronger than he had five years before when he was considered a powder puncher. Sano is 21-9-4 with five KOs, while Kumakawa. a rough-and-tumble swinger, fell to 6-7-2 with five KOs.

Hiroyuki Yoshino, 140, disposed of tall lefty Norikazu Kaneda, 140½, at 2:12 of the fourth of a supporting six.

Promoter—King Promotions.

Attendance—1,960.
(2-4-87)

▶**TOKYO—Korakuen Hall**—Revenging a seventh-round knockout defeat, Fujio Ozaki overwhelmed veteran Hikaru Tomonari to retain his Japanese welterweight championship with a fourth-round knockout in a scheduled 10.

Tomonari had stripped Ozaki of his Japanese lightweight crown three years ago, but the 25-year-old Ozaki battered the fading veteran to the punch for the 13th successful defense of his welter title. Matching Tomonari's 146¾ pounds, Ozaki, who resembles Roberto Duran, proved too fast and ferocious, raising his record to 21-4 with 14 KOs. Tomonari announced his retirement after the beating, finishing 29-10-1 with 16 KOs.

In control from the start, Ozaki hurt Tomonari with a flurry, then dropped him to his knees with a wicked left hook. The end came at 3:05.

Ozaki is scheduled for a June or July crack at Jun-Sok Hwang's OPBF championship.

A supporting six saw Tomoo Matsumoto win a split decision over Kazuya Shigeno to improve his record to 5-2-1 with three KOs. Each weighed 106¾.

Lefty Hiroyuki Iinuma was held to a majority draw by Keizo Takabori in another six. Each weighed 111¾.

Promoter—Teiken Promotions.

Television—Nippon TV.

Attendance—2,030.
(2-5-87)

▶**TOKYO—Korakuen Hall**—In a war between Tiger and Wolf, the former proved more ferocious as Tiger "Shigeru" Michigami, 130, became the Japanese junior lightweight champion when he flattened Wolf "Yoshinobu" Sato, 129½, with a heavy left hook at 41 seconds of the second session of a scheduled 10.

The taller champion attempted to outjab the 5-3 challenger, but in the closing seconds of the first round, Michigami, a former Judo black belt with seven consecutive KOs, caught Sato with roundhouse lefts and rights and only the bell saved the champion.

Fighting from a crouch, Michigami tore in furiously at the start of Round Two, bombarding Sato's body and scoring with lifting uppercuts. The following left hook was a beautiful haymaker, stretching the champion on the canvas for several minutes.

Michigami, who improved to 16-5 with 14 KOs, lacks finesse, but possesses tremendous power in both hands. There is still a question whether his aggressive style will be effective against international top-notchers. The 31-year-old Sato fell to 9-8-2 with seven KOs.

In a companion, 10-round title go, Japanese mini-flyweight champ Kenji Ono was held to a technical draw with Takeo Onishi. Ono, 105, scored well and dropped Onishi, 104¼, with a strong one-two in the second round. But Onishi sustained a bad gash over the left eyebrow, the result of an accidental butt, and the contest was stopped at 2:21 of the fourth round.

The limit to the mini-flyweight class is 105 pounds, and Japan is very critical of the new division as is this correspondent. With good nutrition, physical growth increases. Can you find many 105-pound adults around you? Still, the Oriental and Pacific Boxing Federation, the WBA, WBC and IBF recognize the division.

Masatoshi Takeshi stopped Masashi Yoshida at 1:52 of the second round of a supporting six. Takeshi, 7-7 with three KOs, weighed 158½ as did Yoshida.

Promoter—Shinto Promotions.

Television—TV Asahi.

Attendance—2,450.
(2-10-87)

▶**NOTES** Hideaki Kamashiro's challenge of WBC flyweight champion Sot Chitalada was postponed from February 18 due to an Achilles tendon unjury suffered by Kamashiro. Perhaps the gods have judged against this match as Kamiro is just 6-0 with five KOs and only he and his manager, Hiroaki Tsuda, believe he can win. Asahi TV in Osaka, which televised Kamashiro's previous fights, refused to back up the WBC go financially. Why push a green boy in such haste?

JOE KOIZUMI

KOREA

▶**KWANGWONDO—Hongchun High School Gymnasium**—OPBF junior bantamweight champion Byung-Kwan Chung, 115, had a tough time and barely kept his title with a 12-round draw against Korean champion Dae-Yong Park, 114¾.

Park dropped the champion with a vicious left hook for a mandatory eight in the first round, but Chung fought back, stalking the challenger. Park utilized his footwork to avert the champ's attacks in the third, fourth and sixth rounds, and they exchanged punches incessantly in the latter half of the fight.

Referee Kang-Woo Lee scored 114-114, with judge Chin-Wun Chung going for Park, 115-114, while judge Kang-Soo Yuh scoring 115-114 for Chung. Chung is 11-4-3 with three KOs, while Park remained unbeaten at 13-0-1 with three KOs.

Chil-Sung Chun, Korea's top junior lightweight contender, polished off Thailand's top featherweight contender, Ayuthay Sithphakamron, at 3:09 of the first round of a supporting 10.

The 132-pound Korean exploded a smashing, straight right, and the loser, who weighed 131¼, landed face-first on the canvas.

One of Korea's brightest prospects, Chun won a bronze medal in the Los Angeles Olympics, losing a close decision to Pernell Whitaker in the semifinal. As a pro, he is 5-0 with four Kos, while Ayuthay fell to 10-2-1 with three KOs.

Unbeaten Yong-Kang Kim, 107¾, seized the Korean junior flyweight title, dethroning Ha-shik Lim, 108, via a 10-round decision. Kim is 11-0 with five KOs, with Lim dropping to 18-10-2 with three KOs.

Promoter—Papal Promotions.
(1-17-87)

▶**SEOUL—Munhwa Gymnasium**—Rae-Ki Ahn, the WBC's top flyweight contender, easily caught Thailand's top junior bantamweight contender Thamin Sithseemork and demolished him at 1:59 of the second of a scheduled 10.

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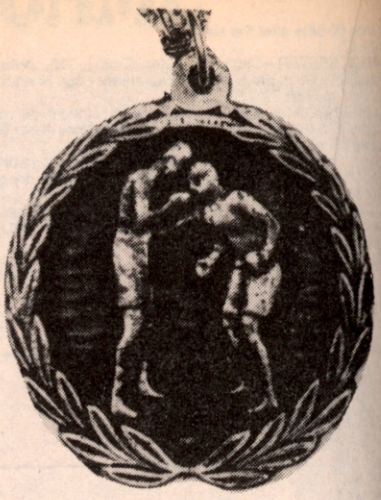

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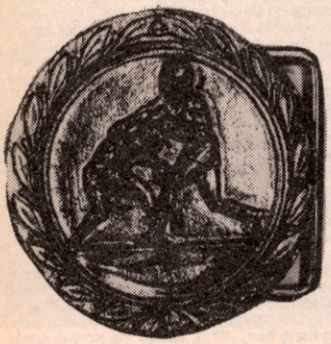

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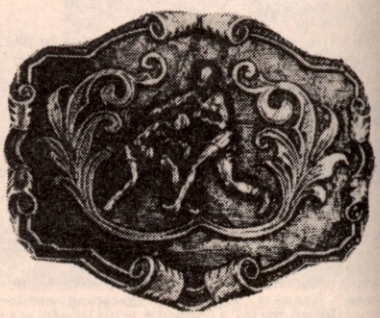

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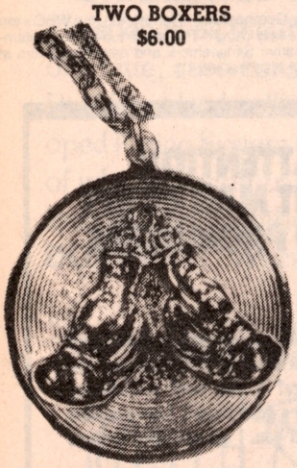

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A good left hooker, Ahn, 114¼, displayed his specialty, scoring the first knockdown in the opening round. The Korean puncher had the 113-pound Thai on the deck twice more from the same punch to raise his record to 21-2-3 with 11 KOs. Thamin fell to 7-5 with four KOs.

Kyu-Chan Cho, 124, decisioned Hyun-Jae Hwang, 123½, in eight.

Chang-Kyun Oh, 119¼, won an eight-round decision from Sang-Suk Bang, 118¾.

Promoter—Waryong Promotions

(1-23-87)

▶**EUJOUNGBU—Eujoungbu City Arena**—Shuichi Hozumi, the WBC's fifth-ranked flyweight, lost a unanimous, 10-round decision to rugged infighter Oh-Kong Son, the IBF's 10th-ranked fly.

Hozumi was making his first showing abroad, and he recklessly exchanged punches without using his vaunted footwork. Hozumi took the first two rounds but Son came back strong to score heavy punches and vicious left hooks. Bleeding from the nose, Hozumi tried to overcome the points deficit, but in vain.

Referee Chin-Won Chung scored 98-95, with judges Dae-Won Chung and Hwan-Soo Yuh each calling it 99-94.

Son is 23-3 with 10 KOs, Hozumi 29-5 with eight KOs. Each weighed 114¼.

In the semifinal 10, Bong-Jun Kim, the KBC's third-ranked junior flyweight, was awarded a technical decision over Seung-Youp Kang in the fifth round.

Kim, 110¼, is 13-4-1 with four KOs. Kang, 110, is 5-7 with one KO.

Promoter—Wonjin Promotions.

Television—KBS TV.

(1-24-87)

▶**SUNGJOUNG—Sungjoung City Arena**—Korean welterweight champ Young-Kil Chung, 148¼, made quick work of Filipino Noli de Guia, 148½, stopping him at 2:35 of the first round of a scheduled 10.

Chung, the WBC's 17th-ranked 147-pounder, is 20-3-2 with 14 KOs.

Promoter—Kukdong Promotions.

(1-31-87)

▶**SUNGNAM—Sungnam School Gymnasium**—Chun Huh, 115, became the new Korean junior bantamweight champion, winning the vacant crown by stopping Yong-Man Cha, 114¼, at 1:04 of the second session of the scheduled 10.

Cha hit the deck twice before the stoppage.

Huh, standing 5-8, was campaigning in the junior flyweight class to be rated in the WBC's top 30. His weight problem caused him to move up to the bantamweight division. His record is 18-1 with 12 KOs, the sole loss caming when Chun tried to lift the Korean title from Cho-Woon Park. Cha slipped to 9-3-3 with six KOs.

In a companion 10, Korean junior welterweight champ Chong-Hak Lee, 139¼, successfully kept his title by outscoring Tae-Wang Kang, the KBC's thrid-ranked contender. Lee upped his log to 18-5-5 with four Kos, while Kang, 140, fell to 24-18-8.

Promoter—Ilhwa Promotions.

(2-1-87)

▶**SEOUL—Munhwa Gymnasium**—OPBF featherweight champ Jae-Yong Hwang amazed the crowd with a knockout of top contender Won-Kyung Kim at 1:50 of the first round of a scheduled 12.

In a battle of southpaws, Hwang hailed the challenger with a barrage of punches, flooring the still-nervous Kim. Though he beat the count, Kim collapsed again under the champ's furious attack, and the bout was stopped.

Each weighed 125¾, and Kil-Suk Chun, 135, fought to a draw in a supporting 10. Kim is 5-2-2 with two KOs, Chun 9-6-3 with four KOs.

Promoter—Dong-Il Promotions.

(2-8-87)

▶**NOTES**—Pay attention to the Filipino rebellion in Korea. Previously, approximately 99 of 100 Filipinos who fought in Korea usually stood in the losers' corner. Filipino boys were known in Korea as victims of Korean prospects, booked for cheap purses. Japanese and Thai boxers are now reluctant to come and fight in Korea as Korean fighters are too strong for them. Some Filipinos, however, scored upset wins over outstanding Korean boys, Geron Poras dethroning OPBF junior lightweight champ Sung-Yun Kim via a 12-round KO and Amado Cabato finishing the WBC's 11th-ranked Chung-Won Chung in two rounds. Also, ex-IBF junior flyweight champ Chong-Kwan Chung was knocked out by Filipino rookie Jun Llano in two surprising sessions. More shocking news came when OPBF bantamweight king Ki-Youl Kang, the WBC's second-ranked bantamweight, lost his title to Ernie Cataluna in the second round. Too many defeats might have enlightened Filipino fighters as to how to cope with the rugged infighting of the Koreans, and they have made a courageous rebellion against the Korean monopoly on the Orient fistic map.

JOE KOIZUMI AND YOO-CHANG KIM

THAILAND

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Staduim**—Thai bantamweight champion Kaokor Galaxy, the elder brother of WBA junior bantamweight champ Kaosai Galaxy, took a unanimous, 10-round decision from Japanese opponent Keiichi Ozaki.

Galaxy, the WBA's 10th-ranked contender at 120 pounds, was surprised at the durability of the 119-pound Ozaki, who fought much better than expected. The two fought on even terms in the first five sessions, but Ozaki tired in the second half as Galaxy dug heavy left uppercuts to the stomach. Ozaki refused to go down, though.

Galaxy remained unbeaten at 11-0 with eight KOs.

(1-15-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Staduim**—Saksamuth Singsamang, 112, stopped Yodchai Petsingha, 114, at 1:58 of the second round of a scheduled six.

(1-1-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—Tepratum Eakchatchingchai, still rated tops in the TBC's junior bantamratings despite his loss to Surasith Meeprasert, gained a unanimous, six-round decision over Nakarach Kiatsonthaya to up his record to 10-1 with six KOs.

Each weighed 118.

(1-2-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—Pramoth Chuvatana, the TBC's No. 2 flyweight, unanimously decisioned Pornmongkil H. Mahachai over six.

Each weighed 115 as Chuvatana improved to 7-0 with five KOs.

(1-3-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Thamin Sithseemork, the TBC's No. 2 junior bantamweight, disposed of Phayakapoom Singsarakam in the fourth of a scheduled six.

Each weighed 119 as Sithseemork scored his fourth KO in an 8-2 record.

(1-5-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Berkrerg Sithsole, the TBC's No. 4 mini-flyweight, knocked out simon pure Rachasak Kiatvichien in the second of a scheduled six.

Sithsole weighed 106, one pound more than Kiatvichien.

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—Kairung (Sithphyak) Lumphayom, Thailand's top-ranked junior flyweight contender, found it very easy to polish off Fahnol Sithfahcamron in the second of a scheduled six.

Lumphayom weighed 11, Sithfahcamron 112.

Lumphayom, 19-12 with 18 KOs, is a frequent bleeder. He was originally booked to fight Japanese prospect Kenji Matsumura, but his bad bleeding cost him a loss to Putt Ohyuthanakorn in his quest for the Thai crown and Ohyuthanakorn took the Matsumura fight instead, getting knocked out in the second round.

(1-10-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—OPBF flyweight champion Thanomsak Sinboabay engaged in a non-title go and chalked up a TKO win over Sakchai Kiatsonthaya, the TBC's No.9 junior bantam, at 2:16 of the second round of a scheduled 10.

Thanomsak, a stylish boxer with a good right hand, is 13-0 with seven KOs.

Each weighed 117.

(1-12-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—Thanjai Kiatthavatchai, the TBC's top-ranked mini-flyweight contender, was befuddled by the jab of Sirimonkol Temudom, ranked No.3, but scored a smashing right cross and finished the latter in the fourth of a scheduled six.

Kiatthavatchai, 106, is 8-2 with four KOs, with Temudom, 103, falling to 10-2 with three KOs.

(1-13-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Chan Rungrojana, a black American born in Thailand and the TBC's top-ranked junior lightweight, easily KO'd Petch Sithseima in the third of a scheudled six.

Each weighed 129 as Rungrojana upped his record to 12-2 with 10 KOs.

(1-15-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—Thailand's No. 5 mini-flyweight Mai Thonburifarm, 106, ran his unbeaten log to 5-0 with two KOs as he decisioned Ded Donjaedee, 107, over six rounds.

(1-17-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Dangnuen Kiat RD, Thailand's No.3 bantam, disposed of Rakchai Kiatsonthaya in the second round of a scheduled six. Each weighed 123 as Kiat scored the sixth knockout in his 14-6 record.

(1-19-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Superboy Eakvat, the TBC's third-ranked lightweight lost an upset, six-round decision to Veers Kiatsonthaya. Eakvat weighed 135 to Kiatsonthaya's 138.

(1-21-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Thongtong Chorsuenanan, Thailand's No. 6 bantamweight contender, stopped Pornmongkil H. Mahachai in the fourth of a scheduled six.

The 116-pound loser was too small for the 117-pound favorite, who improved to 11-1 with seven KOs.

(1-27-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Berkrerg Sithsole, Thailand's No. 4 mini-flyweight, was surprisingly knocked out by unheralded and unknown Den S. Thanikul in the second of a scheduled six.

Each weighed 106½.

(1-28-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Trang T. Bunlerd became the Thai mini-flyweight champion, winning a unanimous, 10-round decision over top contender Thanjai Kiatthavatchai.

Kiatthavatchai was the favorite, but he had to lose nine pounds to match Bunlerd's 105 pounds in the elimination for the vacant crown. He lacked his usual zip and power and was outpunched by the winner who stands 8-0 with two KOs.

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—Noree Jackygym, the TBC's No. 2 bantamweight, stopped Therphan Sithborvon in the second round of a scheduled six.

Each weighed 118.

Promoter Songchai Ratanasuban plans to try to get Jockygym at shot at a world title in the near future.

(1-31-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—Sombutroyod Singsamang, 123, Thailand's top-ranked bantam, knocked out Win Laosinchaii, 118, in the third round of a scheduled six.

(1-31-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Makar Sornram, Thailand's third-ranked junior flyweight, easily stopped Kumarnthong Boonset in the third of a scheduled six.

Sornram, 9-0 with five KOs, weighed 110 as did Boonset.

(2-2-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Thailand's top-ranked flyweight, Downrung Technicutaradit, 114, finished Saksurin Kiatkarmbinthai, 116, in the third canto of a scheduled six. Technicutaradit is 9-1 with five KOs.

(2-5-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—Surasith Meeprasert retained his Lumpinee's junior bantamweight title by stopping Faipanieng Jockygym in the ninth of a scheduled 10.

Meeprasert landed a triple right to the stomach that sank Jockygym for the count. The 19-year-old Meeprasert matched Jockygym's 115 pounds in upping his record to 32-6 with 18 KOs.

(2-7-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Thailand's No. 8 junior flyweight Ritchai Lukmingkwan won a six-round decision over Raveenoi Harnravee. Each weighed 114.

(2-9-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—Pradtoranee Lukelampakchee, former Thai junior bantamweight champion, retired four years ago due to an eye ailment and disappeared into obscurity. But he made a comeback, scoring an easy decision over Nakaraj Kiatsonthaya, the TBC's No. 8 junior bantam, over six rounds.

Each weighed 118 as Ludelampakchee is still unbeaten at 21-0 with 17 KOs. Though 27, if fit the ex-champ with the vaunted jab will loom as another Thai prospect.

(2-10-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Chan Rungrojana, Thailand's top-ranked junior lightweight contender, polished off Samor Laudaryuthaya in the second canto of a scheduled six. Rungrojana, 129, is 13-2 with 11 KOs. The loser weighed 132.

(2-11-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—The TBC's No. 3 flyweight, Charn Sithcarns finished Pornchai Siswadyarng in the second of a scheduled six.

Sithcarns, who weighed 110 as did his opponent, is 9-0 with eight KOs.

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Pramoth Chuvatana, Thailand's second-ranked flyweight, eked out a six-round, split decision over Somchai Kiatsonthaya. Each weighed 115. The crowd seemed to favor Kiatsonthaya, but Chuvatana got the nod to go 8-0 with five knockouts.

(2-16-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—Putt Ohyuthanakorn, Thailand's junior flyweight champion at 107, found it easy to finish Karn Kiatsonthaya, 108, in the first of a scheduled six. Ohyuthanakorn is 18-5 with 12 KOs.

(2-17-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Ex-Thai bantamweight king Dangnuen Kiat RD, 122, showed his ring experience in copping a unanimous, six-round duke from Yuthasak Borkor-

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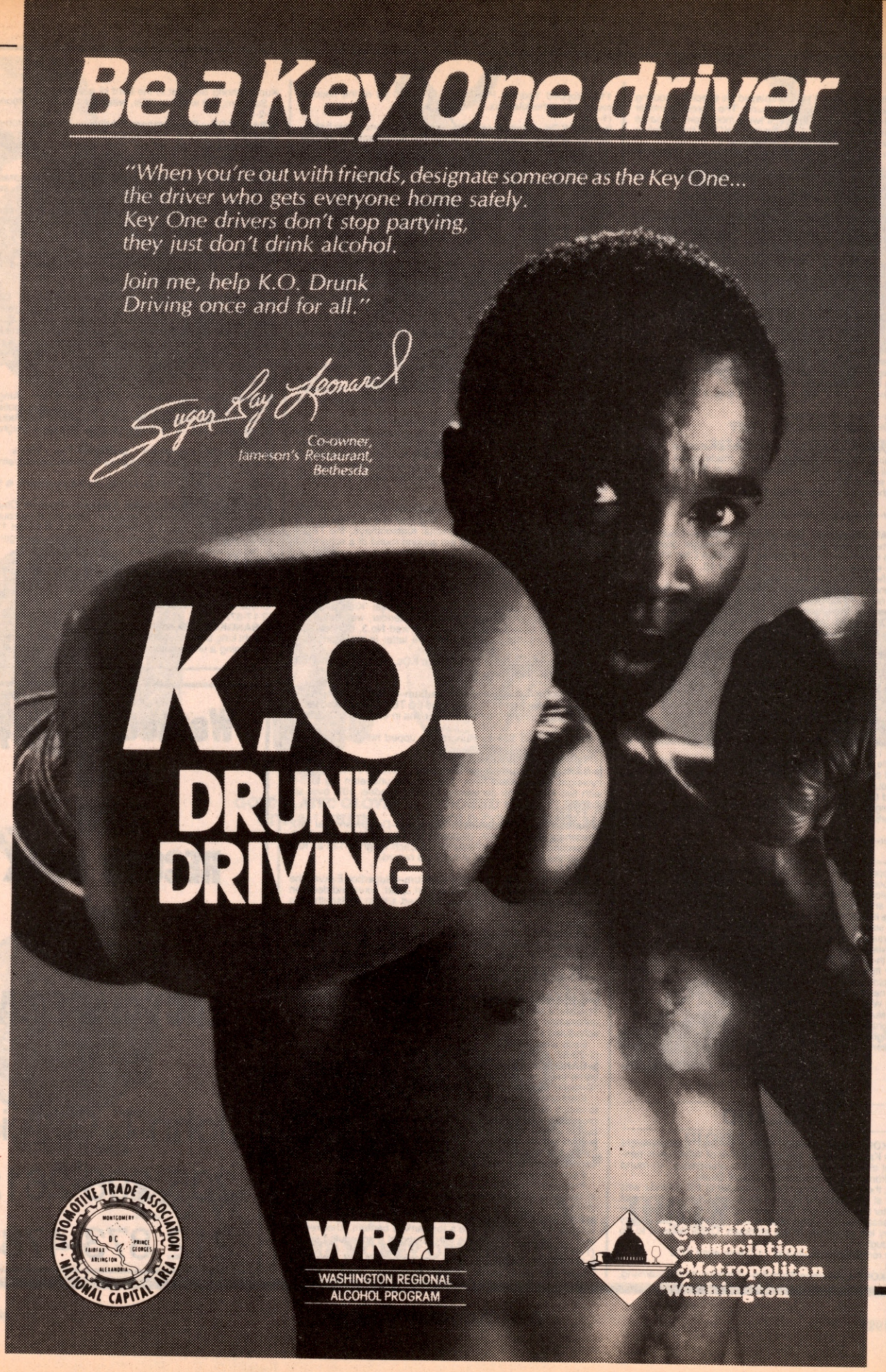
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sor, 124. Kiat is 15-6 with six KOs.
(2-18-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—OPBF mini-flyweight champion Samuth Sithnaruepol, 105, successfully kept his title when he opened a cut on Japanese challenger Norikazu Kawana, 103, and halted him in the fifth round of a scheduled 12.

Kawana, a lefty, was unable to answer the bell, refusing to fight on due to the bad gash. Sithnaruepol is 25-11 with 11 KOs.
(2-19-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—Vinai S. Savat, 135, stopped old soldier Niphonyuth Sakadam, 130, in the third session of a scheduled six.
(2-21-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Thailand's No. 5 mini-flyweight, Mai Thonburifarm, engaged in a rematch with Ded Donjadee, 108, repeating his previous win by a six-round, unanimous decision.
(2-22-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—OPBF lightweight champion Sakad Petchyndee, 135, kept the pressure on Indonesian challenger and top contender Juhari, 132, and retained his title via a 12-round decision.

Strangely enough, the verdict was split with Cap. Chaivat Jirenavat and Bruce McTavich, a neutral from Manila, going 119-113 and 119-110, respectively, for the champion. The crowd angrily jeered the scoresheet of Jope Lima Helm of Indonesia, Helm going for his countryman, 114-113.

Petchyndee, ranked 18th by the WBC, is 11-0 with eight knockouts. He is also the current champion of Muay-Thai, Thailand national kick-boxing.
(2-24-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—The TBC's second-ranked bantam, Sombutre Euasampan, 117, won a unanimous, six-round decision over Phayakapoom Singsarakarm, 117.
(2-25-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—Den Sorthanikul, the TBC's sixth-ranked mini-fly, knocked out Namchok Jockygym in the fourth of a scheduled six. Each weighed 106.
(2-26-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Lumpinee Stadium**—The TBC's top junior flyweight contender Kairung Lumphayom easily stopped Chidchai Sithfahcamron in the third of a scheduled six. Each weighed 110.
(2-28-87)

▶**BANGKOK—Rajadamnern Stadium**—OPBF flyweight champion Thanomsak Sithbaobay utilized his fast and strong jab, kept his pace coolly and won a 12-round decision over Korean champion Soon-Jung Kang.

Sithbaobay, 14-0 with six KOs, proved too sharp for the shorter and slower Korean. The tall Thai reminded this reporter of the first world champion Thailand produced, Pone Kingpetch.

Referee Kenjiro Makizumi of Japan favored the champion, 118-116, with Thailand judge Nipon Lanluang agreeing, 120-112. However, Korean judge Kang-Soo Kim saw it for the challenger, 117-113.

Sithbaobay appeared the obvious winner, though Kang mixed gamely in the seventh and eighth rounds. Each weighed 112.
(3-1-87)

▶**NOTES**—Thailand boasts three world champions, WBC flyweight kingpin Sot Chitalada, WBA junior bantamweight leader Kaosai Galaxy and WBC super bantamweight champ Samart Payakarun.

It is usual to see several different spellings of the same Thai boxer's name. For example, Payakarun is sometimes spelled Payakaroon or Payak-arun. "Payak" means tiger in the Thai language. Arun means dawn or daybreak. So, Payakarun shoul be pronunced as Payak—Arun, not Pa-Ya-Ka-Ru-N. Arun is pronounced as A-Roon, not A-Run.

Such ambiguity arises in the translation from Thai to English. The Thai language has more complex vowels and consonants, and is sometimes difficult to translate mechanically.

JOE KOIZUMI

PAN PACIFIC

AUSTRALIA

NEW SOUTH WALES

▶**MT. PRITCHARD—Community Club**—Robert Newton, 145¾, scored a comfortable points win over Queenslander Jamie Tracey, 150, over 10 rounds.

A hard fight, refereed by John Wright, with scores of 99-96, 98-94 and 99-93, all for Newton.

Charlie Lewis, 136¾, met Rodney Brown, 136, in a scheduled eight-rounder. But Lewis received a cut eye from an accidental head clash, and the doctor ruled Lewis could not continue. Ahead at the time, Lewis was given the decision on points.

Lee Mathers, 155½, scored a six-round decision over Etuati Langi, 166.

Eric Mackato, 140, won a six-round decision over Steve Assang, 136¾.

Kelvin Brown, 133½, outscored Robin Foster, 131¼, over four rounds.
(2-18-87)

▶**WOOLOOWARE—Cronulla—Sutherland Leagues Club**—Joe Nitiva, 160, KO'd Steve Renwick, 159, in Round Seven of a scheduled 10-rounder to take the vacant NSW middleweight title.

Renwick is the Australian junior middleweight champion, while Nitiva is a solid middleweight with a solid punch. That made the difference, and Renwick said he would stick with the junior middles in the future.

It was a good contest, but Nitiva floored Renwick twice in Round Seven wherupon referee John Cauchi rescued him.

A six-rounder had Bobby Mastro, 126, outpoint Ron Bridge, 120.

Steve Lloyd, 141, outpointed Abnormal Romeo, 140, over four.

Another four had Taylor Jabor, 147, win on points over Robert Ngawaka, 149.
(2-20-87)

▶**HOMEBUSH—State Sports Centre**—An ambitious program called "State of Origin" was promoted by a new group calling itself Origin Promotions.

One Australian title tilt scheduled for 12 rounds was the headliner, but the show also featured three 10-rounders, two sixes and one three-rounder. Boxing from the blue corner and wearing blue gloves in each contest was a NSW boxer. Coming from the red corner with red gloves in each contest was a boxer from the State of Queensland. A novel idea. Good program, too. And, the promoters showed a profit, which is also good.

The title match had Wayne Mulholland, 111½, retain his Australian flyweight crown with a six-round stoppage of Queenslander Shane Fooks, 111¾. It was a fast bout, with Mulholland just being too good for Fooks. Referee Alan Moore stopped the contest when Fooks went down for the only knockdown of the fight.

Strangely, the title fight started March 6 and didn't end until March 7. The first bell went off 10 minutes before midnight, with the end coming at 16½ minutes after 12!

NSW lightweight champion Renato Cornett, 133¼, had too much hand and foot speed for Queensland champion Percy Israel, 136, easily winning a 10-round decision.

Former Australian lightweight champion Billy Mulholland, 132¾, was too clever for Queensland's John Fooks, 138¾, and recorded a clear points win after 10 entertaining rounds.

Queensland's lone victory was registered by Tom West, 157½, who gained a narrow points win over Paul Toweel, 161¼, after 10 rousing rounds. The exciting battle drew a shower of coins and notes totaling $120.

A scheduled six-rounder ended in the fourth when Queensland's Scott Baker, 119¾, suffered a cut eye, giving Alan Whitton, 115¾, a TKO win.

The three-rounder had NSW rugby league footballer Peter Tunks, 229¼, turn pro against Queensland rugby league footballer Greg Dowling, 227. The result was a draw.
(3-6-87)

NORTHERN TERRITORY

▶**DARWIN—Kalynos Club**—Local John Siriotis scored a close points win over Queenslander Graeme Looker, the decision being split after 10 good rounds.

Siriotis avenged a 1986 loss to Looker and moved to No. 4 in the Australian junior middleweight ratings. Each fighter weighed 151.

Darrel Quinns, 145½, won a four-round decision over Peter Scott, 145.

Mark Donnell outpointed Mick Cara over four, each weighing 145.

Robbie McCubbin knocked out Fred Sannell in the first of a scheduled four. Each weighed 158.
(3-7-87)

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

▶**ADELAIDE—Adelaide Hotel**—Here's one for the books, *The Ring Record Book*, the Guinness Book of Records, and any and all books that publish odd events.

Terry Fox, having his first fight since June, 1980, met Laurie Mack, having his first fight since March, 1982, in a scheduled eight-round light heavyweight match.

The fight was promoted by Terry Fox and partner John Lane. So? The fight was refereed by Mick Fox, Terry's father! Good enough? That's not all. The fight got out of hand in Round Four, the contestants persisting in unruly fighting, which prompted spectators to enter the ring. The referee declared the bout no contest. How about that?

Three supporting bouts were scheduled for three rounds each.

Welterweight Rodney Kohler outpointed Chris Larritt.

Lightweight Laurie Agius won a decision over Gary Franklin.

Junior middleweight Terry Franklin outpointed Bruce Delbridge.
(1-30-87)

RAY MITCHELL

NEW ZEALAND

▶**AUCKLAND—YMCA Stadium**—Tongan Tony Fulilangi breezed through the opening two rounds of his scheduled 12-rounder against Fijian Degai before stopping Degai in the third.

Degai suffered an ugly cut over his left eyebrow at the outset of the third round, and referee Eddie Manuela immediately had the ringside doctor inspect the injury. He declared it too serious for Degai to continue and Fulilangi notched yet another stoppage victory, albeit in hollow fashion.

Trial referee Ail Afakasi probably saved the bout for Mua Taliulu, who was virtually out on his feet while being pummeled in a corner by Tumua Anae in the fifth of their scheduled six-rounder. A hasty command of "break" gave Taliulu needed respite to clear his head and come back to slug it out down the wire with Anae, who took an eight-count in the fourth after being dropped by a number of head punches. Taliulu was awarded the unanimous decision.

Penu Rasmussen and Tau Petone wasted few punches before the 19-year-old Rasmussen scored a three-round TKO. Rasmussen looked to have the edge as they answered the bell for Round Three, and he upped his punchrate to drop Petone for an eight-count. Rasmussen followed with a two-fisted assault that forced referee Johnny Hanks to step in.

Lebani Yavala fought stubbornly against Kevin Pulu, but the latter punched heavily with precision to score a fourth-round TKO. Yavala was dropped in the third and wilted quickly when Pulu attacked without letup in the fourth.

Promoter—Fulilangi Promotions.

Attendance—800.
(1-13-87)

▶**AUCKLAND—YMCA Stadium**—Tony Fuliangi of Tonga successfully defended his South Seas heavyweight championship, demolishing Fiji's Luke Tui within two rounds.

After a quiet opening stanza, Fuliangi (15-3) shortened his blows as he moved forward quickly and resoundingly dropped Tui (16-6) three times with powerful blows to the head at which point referee Adolph Johansson declared Fuliangi victor by TKO.

Undefeated newcomer Rocky Aumatangi won the battle between locals when Mus Talilulu turned away after an exchange of blows in the fourth of a scheduled six-rounder, leaving referee Eddie Manuela no alternative but to declare Aumatangi TKO victor. Talilulu had suffered a dislocated shoulder. Up until this unfortunate ending, there was little between them on the scorecards.

Another scheduled six also concluded before the final bell when referee Johnny Hanks raised Paul Aeolu's arm in victory after he overpowered gutsy Fijian Junior Bals. Both displayed good boxing technique and hard hitting, but the Samoan started to find the range with his right late in the fourth. He upped his punch rate in the fifth to eventually have Bala floundering under a blistering attack, at which point the referee stopped the excellent contest.

Opening bout on the card was a four-rounder between Samoa's Tumua Anae and Fiji's Lavani Yavala. The light-hitting Yavala just shaded the opening round, but from there on Anae was the stronger, busier and heavier puncher and won the unanimous decision. Referee, Manuela.

Fulianji Promotions.

Attendance: 1,200.
(2-20-87)

JOHNNY HANKS

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AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA

▶**ELDORADO PARK**—Johannes "Baby Joe" Miya became the Transvaal flyweight champion when he scored a convincing, 10-round points victory over Kirk Morris.

The former South African flyweight champion scored with crisp body punches and combinations to the head to be awarded the decision by a clear margin on the scorecards.

Jerry Mbitse, former South African junior featherweight champion, became the Transvaal junior featherweight champ when he beat Stanford Ngeebeshe on points after 10 rounds of a stirring and bloody contest.

In a rather tame six-rounder, lightweight Aladin Stevens was too experienced for Paulus Pulumo, winning an easy decision. (1-25-87)

▶**ELDORADO PARK**—Nika Khumalo scored a sensational victory when he finally wore down brave Bashy Mosoeu in the ninth round to win the South African lightweight title.

The bout, an absolute war from the first gong, was scheduled for 12 rounds. The 800-odd fans who attended this hot, Sunday afternoon show saw what must rank as one of the most exciting fights seen in a South African ring for many a year. (2-1-87)

▶**ELDORADO PARK**—Former South African lightweight champion Aladin Stevens regained some of his old form when he stopped Thomas Sithebe in 2:11 of the sixth round to win the Transvaal lightweight title.

The slow and shopworn Sithebe, a former South African featherweight champion, had no answer for the ever-advancing southpaw Stevens and would be wise to call it a day. (2-11-87)

▶**SUN CITY—Superbowl**—An estimated crowd of 5,000 was on hand to see Johnny DuPlooy win a controversial, sixth-round knockout against American heavyweight K.P. Porter.

The fight ended with Porter claiming he had been intentionally thumbed by DuPlooy, and Porter's manager argued the decision should have been a technical draw.

Piet Crous, the former WBA junior heavyweight champion, gave a rather overweight Sakkie Enslen a pounding in winning every round until Enslen's corner threw in the towel as the sixth drew to a close.

In what was possibly the best fight of the night, Welcome Ncita, the South African flyweight champion, outpointed American Lee Gargle over 10 rounds. Gargle, with high cheekbones inherited from his red Indian mother, appeared dangerous as he came out firing from the first bell. But the little South African remained calm and picked off the American's punches to take command, winning unanimously.

After their low-blows affair, the skeptics were rather critical of the rematch between light heavyweights Sakkie Horn and Freddie Rafferty. But they proved the critics wrong, putting on a slam-bang affair over 10 rounds, Horn emerging the victor by unanimous decision. (2-7-87)

▶**STELLENBOSCH**—Mark Brawood, who recently campaigned in the United States, was unimpressive in outpointing Arthur Moul in an eight-round junior middleweight scrap. (2-20-87)

RON JACKSON

WORLD RATINGS BY THE WORLD BOXING COUNCIL

(As of March 16, 1987)

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Mike Tyson (U.S.)
1. Pinklon Thomas (U.S.)
2. Trevor Berbick (Canada)
3. Tony Tucker (U.S.)
4. Tyrell Biggs (U.S.)
5. Michael Spinks (U.S.)
6. Jose Ribalta (U.S.)
7. Gerry Cooney (U.S.)
8. James Smith (U.S.)
9. Tim Witherspoon (U.S.)
10. Frank Bruno (Great Britain)
11. Razor Ruddock (Canada)
12. Greg Page (U.S.)
13. Adilson Rodrigues (Brazil)
14. Carl Williams (U.S.)
15. James Broad (U.S.)
16. James Douglas (U.S.)
17. Dorcy Gamon (U.S.)
18. Mike Weaver
19. Tony Tubbs (U.S.)
20. Larry Alexander (U.S.)
21. Horace Notice (Great Britain)
22. Joe Bugner (U.S.)
23. Mitchell Green (U.S.)
24. Jeff Sims (U.S.)
25. Eddie Gregg (U.S.)
26. Michael Williams (U.S.)
27. Marvis Frazier (U.S.)
28. David Bey (U.S.)
29. Anders Eklund (Denmark)
30. Terry Anderson (U.S.)

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Champion
Carlos DeLeon (Puerto Rico)
1. Boone Pultz (U.S.)
2. Bert Cooper (U.S.)
3. Jose Maria Flores (Uruguay)
4. Michael Greer (U.S.)
5. Bernard Benton (U.S.)
6. Lee Roy Murphy (U.S.)
7. Chisanda Mutti (Zambia)
8. Henry Tillman (U.S.)
9. Sammy Reeson (England)
10. Taoufik Balbouli (Mauritania)
11. Tony Fulilangi (Tonga)
12. Bashiru Ali (Nigeria)
13. Angelo Rottoli (Italy)
14. Alfonzo Ratliff (U.S.)
15. Osvaldo Ocasio (Puerto Rico)
16. Ralf Rocchigiani (Germany)
17. Elijah Tillery (U.S.)
18. Angelo Musone (Italy)
19. Anthony Davis (U.S.)
20. Daniel Netto (Argentina)
21. Kevin Wagstaff (Australia)
22. Cedric Parsons (Canada)
23. Spencer Chavis (U.S.)
24. David Russell (Australia)
25. Jorge Dascola (Argentina)
26. Tyrone Booze (U.S.)
27. Glenn McCrory (England)
28. Andy Straughn (England)
29. Anthony Witherspoon (U.S.)
30. Young Haumoma (Tonga)

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Champion
Thomas Hearns (U.S.)
1. Eddie Davis (U.S.)
2. Dennis Andries (England)
3. Leslie Stewart (Trinidad)
4. Alex Blanchard (Netherlands)
5. Don LaLonde (Canada)
6. Charles Williams (U.S.)
7. Richard Caramanolis (France)
8. Joe Lasisi (Nigeria)
9. Jean Marie Emebe (Cameroon)
10. Slobodan Kacar (Yugoslavia)
11. Willie Edwards (U.S.)
12. Jeff Lampkin (U.S.)
13. Uriah Grant (U.S.)
14. Jorge Salgado (U.S.)
15. Jim MacDonald (U.S.)
16. Mustafa Hamsho (U.S.)
17. Fulgencio Obelmejias (Vez.)
18. Nestor Giovanni (Argentina)
19. Graciano Rocchigiane (Germany)
20. Chris Reid (U.S.)
21. Mark Kaylor (England)
22. J.B. Williamson (U.S.)
23. David Sears (U.S.)
24. Ramzi Hassan (U.S.)
25. Kelvin Kelly (U.S.)
26. Jesse Shelby (U.S.)
27. Yombo Araka (Cameroun)
28. Tarmo Uusivirta (Finland)
29. Virgil Hill (U.S.)
30. Jerry Okorududu (Nigeria)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Champion
Marvin Hagler (U.S.)
1. Herol Graham (England)
2. Juan D. Roldan (Argentina)
3. Michael Olajide (Canada)
4. Iran Barkley (U.S.)
5. James Kinchen (U.S.)
6. Michael Nunn (U.S.)
7. Robbie Simms (U.S.)
8. Juan Carlos Gimenez (Paraguay)
9. Lindell Holmes (U.S.)
10. Sumbu Kalambay (Italy)
11. Darnell Knox (U.S.)
12. Don Lee (U.S.)
13. Frank Winterstein (France)
14. Tony Sibson (England)
15. Frank Tate (U.S.)
16. Mark Holmes (U.S.)
17. John Collins (U.S.)
18. Tony Darrell (U.S.)
19. Mike Tinley (U.S.)
20. Charlie Boston (U.S.)
21. Errol Christie (Great Britain)
22. Mark Janssen (Australia)
23. Tony Thornton (U.S.)
24. Luigi Minchillo (Italy)
25. Kevin Moley (U.S.)
26. Dario Matteoni (Argentina)
27. Doug DeWitt (U.S.)
28. Mark McPherson (U.S.)
29. Sean Mannion (U.S.)
30. Kevin Watts (U.S.)

SUPER WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Duane Thomas (U.S.)
1. John Mugabi (Uganda)
2. Matthew Hilton (Canada)
3. In-Chul Baek (Korea)
4. Milton McCrory (U.S.)
5. Don Curry (U.S.)
6. Julian Jackson (Virgin Islands)
7. Lupe Aquino (U.S.)
8. John Munduga (Uganda)
9. Ramon Ramos (Argentina)
10. Kenny Snow (U.S.)
11. Saad Skouma (France)
12. Gianfranco Rosi (Italy)
13. Davey Moore (U.S.)
14. Elio Diaz (Venezuela)
15. Mark Medal (U.S.)
16. Chris Pyatt (England)
17. Jon-Sok Hwang (Korea)
18. Carlos Elliott (Japan)
19. David Braxton (U.S.)
20. Ramon Abeldano (Argentina)
21. Jae-Hyung Huh (Korea)
22. Hugo Marinangeli (Argentina)
23. Nick Wilshire (England)
24. Troy Waters (Australia)
25. Steve Little (U.S.)
26. Francisco Lisboa (Indonesia)
27. Mardo Roybal (U.S.)
28. Steve Renwick (Australia)
29. Jack Callahan (U.S.)
30. John David Jackson (U.S.)

WELTERWEIGHTS
Champion
Lloyd Honeyghan (Great Britain)
1. Maurice Blocker (U.S.)
2. Tommy Ayers (U.S.)
3. Marlon Starling (U.S.)
4. Tomas Molinares (Columbia)
5. Seung-Soon Lee (Korea)
6. Simon Brown (U.S.)
7. Johnny Bumphus (U.S.)
8. Lorenzo Garcia (Argentina)
9. Tyrone Trice (U.S.)
10. Jorge Vaca (Mexico)
11. Horace Shufford (U.S.)
12. Miguel A. Arroyo (Argentina)
13. Kirkland Laing (Great Britain)
14. Gene Hatcher (U.S.)
15. Yung-Kil Chung (Korea)
16. Daryl Anthony (U.S.)
17. Sylvester Mittee (Great Britain)
18. Charles Nwokolo (Nigeria)
19. Brian Janssen (Australia)
20. Jose Varela (Germany)
21. Hector Hugo Vilte (Argentina)
22. Judas Clottey (Ghana)
23. Luis Santana (U.S.)
24. Helio Santana (Brazil)
25. Efisio Galici (Italy)
26. Manning Galloway (U.S.)
27. Hugh Kearney (U.S.)
28. Sung-Ho Chang (Korea)
29. Fujio Ozaki (Japan)
30. Maurizio Ronzoni (Italy)

SUPER LIGHTWEIGHTS

Champion
Tsuyoshi Hamada (Japan)

1. Rene Arredondo (Mexico)
2. Frankie Warren (US)
3. Buddy McGirt (US)
4. Ronnie Shields (U.S.)
5. Juan Coggi (Argentina)
6. Sang-Ho Lee (Korea)
7. Rodolfo Gonzalez (Mexico)
8. Meldrick Taylor (US)
9. Howard Davis, Jr. (U.S.)
10. Harold Brazier (US)
11. Kyung-Duk Ahn (Korea)
12. Joe Manley (US)
13. Gary Hinton (US)
14. John Meekins (US)
15. Hugo Hernandez (Argentina)
16. Alberto M. Cortes (Argentina)
17. Eung-Dik Kim (Korea)
18. Andy Nance (U.S.)
19. Allan Alegria (Philippines)
20. Pat Leglise (Australia)
21. Akinobu Hiranaka (Japan)
22. Vincent Releford (US)
23. Reyes Cruz (Dominican Republic)
24. John Montes (US)
25. Thomas Nkalankete (France)
26. Lonnie Smith (US)
27. Cassius Clay Horn (US)
28. Tony Laing (England)
29. Roberto Nunez (Dominican Republic)
30. Wilf Gentzen (Australia)

LIGHTWEIGHTS

Champion
Hector Camacho (Puerto Rico)

1. Jose Luis Ramirez (Mexico)
2. Terrence Alli (U.S.)
3. Frankie Randall (U.S.)
4. Jimmy Paul (U.S.)
5. Cornelius Boza-Edwards (Uganda)
6. Roger Mayweather (U.S.)
7. Darryl Tyson (U.S.)
8. Miguel Santana (Puerto Rico)
9. Pernell Whitaker (US)
10. Angel Hernandez (Puerto Rico)
11. Cubanito Perez (US)
12. Vinny Pazienza (US)
13. Livingstone Bramble (US)
14. Primo Ramos (Mexico)
15. Juan Nazario (Puerto Rico)
16. Sarad Petchyindee (Thailand)
17. Gert Bo Jacobsen (Denmark)
18. Sergio Zambrano (Mexico)
19. Luis Soto (Argentina)
20. Jesus Romero (Argentina)
21. Maurico Aceves (Mexico)
22. John Duplessis (US)
23. Rene Weller (Germany)
24. Tony Willis (Great Britain)
25. Vernon Buchanan (US)
26. Sammy Fuentes (Puerto Rico)
27. Dale Artango (Australia)
28. Shane Knox (US)
29. Shelton LeBlanc (US)
30. Walter Sims (US)

SUPER FEATHERWEIGHTS

Champion
Julio Cesar Chavez (Mexico)

1. Francisco Tomas Cruz (Brazil)
2. Mario Martinez (Mexico)
3. Juan LaPorte (U.S.)
6. Johnny de la Rosa (Dominican Republic)
5. Rocky Lockridge (U.S.)
6. Lester Ellis (Australia)
7. Mario Miranda (Colombia)
8. Jean Marc Renard (Belgium)
9. Daniel Londas (France)
10. Sung-Yun Kim (Korea)
11. Dwight Pratchett (US)
12. Kenny Baysmore (US)
13. Jose Rivera (Puerto Rico)
14. Dennis Cruz (Puerto Rico)
15. Pascual Aranda (US)
16. Manuel Batista (Dominican Republic)
17. Sam Akromah (Ghana)
18. Jackie Beard (US)
19. Kamel Bou Ali (Tunisia)
20. Refugio Rojas (Mexico)
21. Vinnie Costello (U.S.)
22. Tony Lopez (US)
23. Tony Pep (Canada)
24. Julio Mirnada (Argentina)
25. Geron Porras (Philippines)
26. Eduardo Galan (Argentina)
27. Raphe Sims (US)
28. Nagib Daho (Great Britain)
29. John Sichula (Zambia)
30. Jose Vidal Concepcion (Puerto Rico)

FEATHERWEIGHTS

Champion
Azumah Nelson (Ghana)

1. Marcos Villasana (Mexico)
2. Calvin Grove (U.S.)
3. Bernard Taylor (U.S.)
4. Tyrone Downes (Trinidad)
5. Jose Mario Lopez (Argentina)
6. Barry McGuigan (Ireland)
7. Javier Marquez (Mexico)
8. Jose Marmolejo (Panama)
9. Mauro Gutierrez (Mexico)
10. Carlos Zarate (Mexico)
11. Steve Cruz (US)
12. Jaime Garza (US)
13. Osmar Avila (Argentina)
14. Roger Arevalo (Mexico)
15. Lupe Suarez (US)
16. Joe Ruelas (US)
17. Danilo Cabrera (Dom. Rep.)
18. Ki-Yung Chung (Korea)
19. Min-Keun Oh (Korea)
20. Robert Rivera (Puerto Rico)
21. Jim McDonnell (Great Britain)
22. Maurizio Stecca (Italy)
23. George Navarro (U.S.)
24. Hector Lopez (Mexico)
25. Tony Miller (Australia)
26. Juvenal Ordenes (Chile)
27. Mario Fernandez (Dominican Republic)
28. Alvaro Bohorquez (Colombia)
29. Jae-Yong Hwang (Korea)
30. Lenny Valdez (Mexico)

SUPER BANTAMWEIGHTS

Champion
Samart Payakaroon (Thailand)

1. Jeff Fenech (Australia)
2. Harold Petty (US)
3. Daniel Zaragoza (Mexico)
4. Victor Callejas (Puerto Rico)
5. Julian Solis (Puerto Rico)
6. Loris Stecca (Italy)
7. Valerio Nati (Italy)
8. Daniel Blanco (Colombia)
9. Daryl Thigpen (US)
10. Jesse Benavides (U.S.)
11. Alberto Mercado (Puerto Rico)
12. Aaron Lopez (U.S.)
13. Mike Ayala (US)
14. Jesus Salud (Hawaii)
15. Tommy Valoy (Dominican Republic)
16. Pedro Decima (Argentina)
17. George Garcia (U.S.)
18. James Pipps (US)
19. Prayoonsak Maungsurin (Thailand)
20. Ruben Palacio (Colombia)
21. Ramon Dominguez (Argentina)
22. Bobby Berna (Philippines)
23. Jose Meneses (Panama)
24. Juan Veloz (U.S.)
25. Johnny Carter (U.S.)
26. Yun-Kap Choi (Korea)
27. Manuel Vilchez (Venezuela)
28. Jorge Urbina Diaz (Mexico)
29. Lusito Espinosa (Philippines)
30. Patricio Gil (Argentina)

BANTAMWEIGHTS

Champion
Miguel Lora (Colombia)

1. Chan-Yung Park (Korea)
2. Alberto Davila (U.S.)
3. Greg Richardson (U.S.)
4. Hurley Snead (US)
5. Azael Moran (Panama)
6. Jose Sanabria (Venezuela)
7. Lucio Lopez (Argentina)
8. Antonio Avelar (Mexico)
9. Ernie Cataluna (Philippines)
10. Jorge Ramirez (Mexico)
11. Wilfredo Vasquez (Puerto Rico)
12. Cardenio Ulloa (Chile)
13. Gaby Canizales (U.S.)
14. Ki-Youl Kang (Korea)
15. Takuya Muguruma (Japan)
16. Kelvin Seabrooks (U.S.)
17. Enrique Sanchez (Dominican Republic)
18. Ray Minus (Bahamas)
19. Ciro de Leva (Italy)
20. Raul Perez (Mexico)
21. Juan Jose Estrada (Mexico)
22. Changuito Carmona (Mexico)
23. James Manning (US)
24. Kaokor Galaxy (Thailand)
25. Louis Gomis (France)
26. Yung-Duk Park (Korea)
27. Ali Camacho (Venezuela)
28. Fernando Beltran (Mexico)
29. Rocky Chitalada (Thailand)
30. Naoto Takahashi (Japan)

SUPER FLYWEIGHTS

Champion
Gilberto Roman (Mexico)

1. Frank Cedeno (Philippines)
2. Santos Laciar (Argentina)
3. Babe Rojas (Colombia)
4. Raul Diaz (Colombia)
5. Juan Polo (Colombia)
6. Alberto Castro (Colombia)
7. Kongtoranee Payakarun (Thailand)
8. Gustavo Ballas (Argentina)
9. Juan Carazo (Puerto Rico)
10. Antoine Montero (France)
11. Jiro Watanabe (Japan)
12. Michael Parrish (Guyana)
13. Israel Contreras (Venezuela)
14. Edgar Monserrat (Panama)
15. Eudo Bermudez (Colombia)
16. Cesar Polanco (Dom. Rep.)
17. Tae-Il Chang (Korea)
18. Byung-Kwan Chung (Korea)
19. Mike Moreno (U.S.)
20. Oscar Bolivar (Colombia)
21. Dong-Choon Lee (Korea)
22. Constancio Dangla (Philippines)
23. Ruben Condori (Argentina)
24. Tadashi Maruo (Japan)
25. Seishi Hatanaka (Japan)
26. Ernesto Ford (Panama)
27. Ki-Chang Kim (Korea)
28. Chun Huh (Korea)
29. Soon-Chun Kwong (Korea)
30. Dae-Yong Park (Korea)

FLYWEIGHTS

Champion
Sot Chitalada (Thailand)

1. Rae-Ki Ahn (Korea)
2. Gabriel Bernal (Mexico)
3. Duke McKenzie (England)
4. Rafael Caban (Puerto Rico)
5. Adrian Roman (Argentina)
6. Hilario Zapata (Panama)
7. Oh-Kong Son (Korea)
8. Miguel Mercedes (Dom. Rep.)
9. Richard Clarke (Jamaica)
10. Orlando Canizales (US)
11. Paul Gonzales (U.S.)
12. Jimmy Fernandez (Mexico)
13. Rafael Cabrera (Dom. Rep.)
14. Javier Lucas (Mexico)
15. Juan Herrera (Mexico)
16. Hideaki Kamishiro (Japan)
17. Thanomsak Simbaobay (Thailand)
18. Shuichi Hozumi (Japan)
19. Bi-Won Chung (Korea)
20. Koji Nishikawa (Japan)
21. Leopard Tamakuma (Japan)
22. Ray Medel (US)
23. Nana Konadu (Ghana)
24. Claudemir Dias (Brazil)
25. Franco Cherchi (Italy)
26. Gilberto Sosa (Mexico)
27. Fernando Varguez (Mexico)
28. Soon-Jong Kang (Korea)
29. Romy Navarrete (Philippines)
30. Hi-Sup Shin (Korea)

LIGHT FLYWEIGHTS

Champion
Jung-Koo Chang (Korea)

1. Rodolfo Blanco (Colombia)
2. Jorge Cano (Mexico)
3. Benedicto Murillo (Panama)
4. Isidro Perez (Mexico)
5. Rodolfo Alvarado (Mexico)
6. Agustin Garcia (Colombia)
7. Seiji Tomari (Japan)
8. German Torres (Mexico)
9. Efren Pinto (Mexico)
10. Willy Salazar (Mexico)
11. Cho-Woon Park (Korea)
12. Emilio Santos (Mexico)
13. Yong-Kang Kim (Korea)
14. Francisco Montiel (Mexico)
15. Mario Demarco (Argentina)
16. Eduardo Tunon (Panama)
17. Santiago Mendez (Mexico)
18. Roy Thompson (Panama)
19. Little Baguio (Philippines)
20. Francisco Tejedor (Colombia)
21. Hermogenes Murillo (Panama)
22. Ruben Padilla (Mexico)
23. Tomohiro Kiyna (Japan)
24. Pretty Boy Lucas (Philippines)
25. Agapito Gomez Alvarado (Spain)
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27. Memo Flores (Mexico)
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29. Humberto Gonzalez (Mexico)
30. Samuth Sithnaruepol (Thailand)

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To bring out a 1986 Ring Record Book at this time—with material only through the end of 1985—would be a waste of our time and an insult to our customers. We have therefore decided to issue a combined 1986-87 edition with records through the end of 1986.

Complete round-by-round title bout information for both 1985 *and* 1986 will be included—making this a true "combined" edition. The 1986 Ring Record Book, for which orders were taken at $29.95, was to have been 1008 pages. We anticipate the 1986-87 edition will be 1152 pages. The price is $31.95. All those who ordered the 1986 edition at $29.95, however, will receive the 1986-87 edition at no additional cost.

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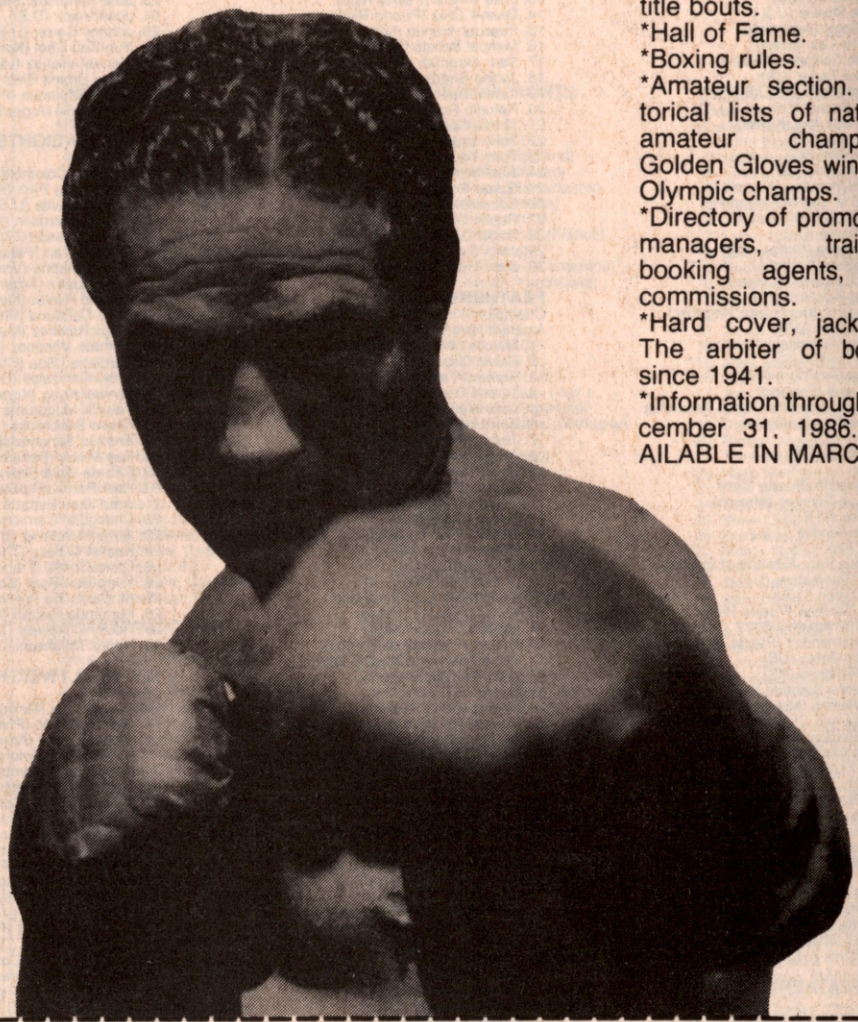

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Ask The Answerman

by Phill Marder

Q: What happened to welterweight Andy "The Hawk" Price from Los Angeles? What was his record and ranking? Why didn't he get a title shot? Didn't he beat Carlos Palomino?

STANLEY DURA
Walpole, Ma.

A: *Price turned pro in 1972, compiling a 36-9-3 record before quitting. He did, indeed, beat Carlos Palomino, winning a 10-round decision August 2, 1974. Palomino was 9-0-1 at the time and didn't lose again until Wilfred Benitez snatched his welterweight championship in 1979. Ironically, Price's victory over Palomino followed two straight fights in which Price had been stopped after going unbeaten in his first 18 bouts. In 1976, Price scored a 10-round decision over Pipino Cuevas and was ranked 10th by* ***The Ring.*** *But he disappeared from the ratings when he was stopped in six by Jose Baquedano less than two months later. Meanwhile, Cuevas, just 19-6 at the time, was given a WBA title shot a month after losing to Price! He took the title with a two-round knockout of Angel Espada. Why didn't Price get the title shot? Ask the WBA—there are some answers even "The Answerman" can't explain. In September, 1979 Price was stopped in the first round of an NABF title bout by Sugar Ray Leonard. He continued fighting, winning five of his next six, but ended his career after being stopped in the first round by Hedgemon Robertson in February, 1973.*

Q: As a young boxing fan, I've always liked to research the old-time champs. But one guy I've never heard anything about is former heavyweight champ Marvin Hart. What was his pro record? Who did he defeat to win the title? What are the dates of his reign? How many times did he defend his title? When did he die?

DAVID SMITH
Lynchburg, Va.

A: *When Jim Jeffries retired as unbeaten heavyweight champion, he named Marvin Hart and Jack Root to fight for the vacant crown. Jeffries even refereed the fight, which took place in Reno July 3, 1905. Hart won by knockout in the 12th round, but was never universally recognized as champion as other heavyweights, particularly Tommy Burns, protested Jeffries' move. Burns campaigned throughout the world, while Hart sat on his crown, never making a defense. His only appearance while "champion" was a two-round knockout of Pat Callahan in an exhibition. Seven months after Hart beat Root, he faced Burns on February 3, 1906, losing a 20-round decision and any claim he had to the championship. Hart finished his career 38-7-4 with 19 knockouts. Eight of his fights were declared no decision. He died September 17, 1931, in Fern Creek, Kentucky at age 55.*

Q: Have you ever heard of a fighter named Lamar Clark? I heard he was from England. He had over 100 victories and no defeats. He was a heavyweight fighting during the 60s. Any information would be greatly appreciated. I read *The Ring* every month. I really enjoy your article, and I'm amazed at your boxing knowledge.

LINDSEY TUCKER
Trenton, N.J.

A: *As bad as English heavyweights are traditionally, it still seems unlikely the English would want to claim Clark as one of their own. From England? Certainly not. From hunger? Not quite, but close. Actually, Clark hailed from that boxing hotbed of Cedar City, Utah. A heavyweight, Clark turned pro in 1955 with an eight-round draw. He won his next two starts by decision, then reeled off 44 straight knockouts, 40 coming in the first or second round. That remains the record for consecutive knockouts, edging Billy Fox, who stopped 43 straight foes. But Clark's record was built on an assortment of potato sacks and tomato cans. On several occasions, he knocked out two or three opponents in the same night! He was exposed April 8, 1960 when he was stopped in nine rounds by the ever-popular Bartolo Soni in Ogden, Utah. A fluke? No way. In his next outing, three months later, he was stopped in 10 by Pete Rademacher. Yes, that Pete Rademacher. Clark took nine months off, then resumed his "career" with a two-round stoppage of Dick Wilburn. But less than two months later, he traveled to Louisville where he was knocked out in two rounds by a youngster named Cassius Clay.*

This month "The Answerman" gives the lowdown on heavyweight Lamar Clark for reader Lindsey Tucker of Trenton, New Jersey. Clark is seen here holding a photo of another heavyweight of note . . . Jack Dempsey.

Q: My uncle told me he fought as a flyweight during the 1920s under the name Hilly Levine. He also told me he was good friends with Sammy Dorfman. Could you please give me the records of these two fighters and tell me if Dorfman is still living and where I can write to him if he is.

WILLIAM LEVINE.
Jamaica, N.Y.

A: *Whoa, this was a tough one. Hilly Levine was indeed a flyweight who campaigned in the '20s. Whether or not he is your uncle, only your family can answer. A complete record is unavailable, but Levine did face Frankie Genaro three times before Genaro won the WBA flyweight title in 1928. In the first match, August 22, 1924, Levine lost a 10-round decision. The rematch, July 31, 1925, saw Genaro win on a foul in the 11th round. The rubber took place April 5, 1926, ending in no decision. As for Dorfman, we were unable to scratch up any info at press time. Maybe our readers can help on that one.*

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WORLDWIDE FIGHT RESULTS

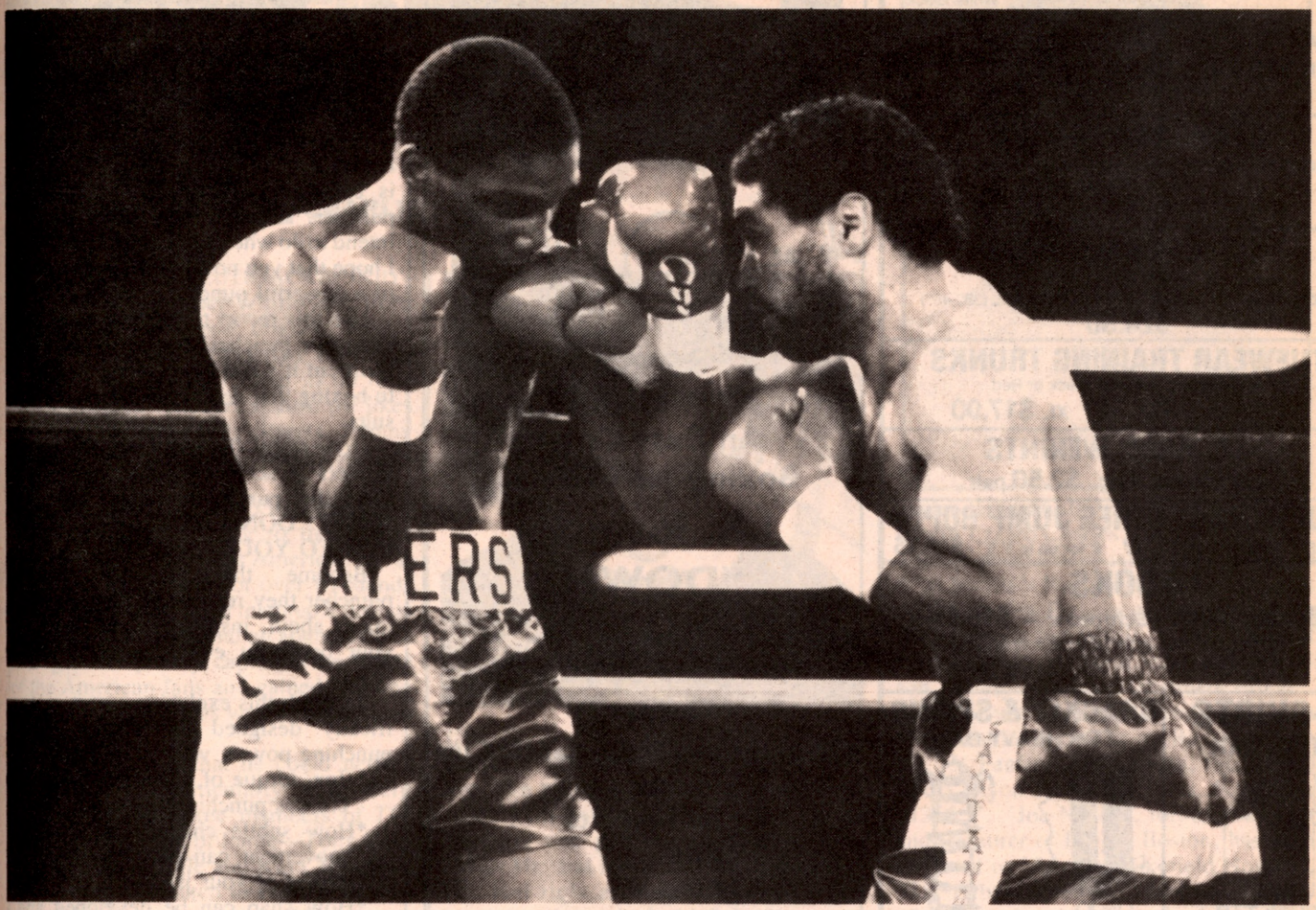

PHOTO BY FRANK VALERI

Tommy Ayers (left) came off the canvas to stop Luis Santana in the fourth round for the NABF welterweight title in Las Vegas.

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Anders Eklund KO7 Alfredo Evangelista
(Won European Title)
Ricky Parkey TKO12 Chisanda Mutti
(Retained IBF Title)
Frank Bruno TKO5 James Tillis
Tony Fulilangi TKO3 Fijian Degai

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Willy Featherstone W12 Roddie McDonald
(Retained Canadian Title)

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Frank Tate W10 Marvin Mack
John Sirlotis W10 Graeme Looker
Reggie Barnes W10 J.D. Dobbins
Ken Styles KO3 Clint Longmire
Mark McPherson W10 Mike Peoples
Milton McCrory TKO1 Rafael Corona
(Won Vacant NABF Super Welter Title)
Buster Drayton KO10 Said Skouma
(Retained IBF Jr. Middleweight Title)
Vincent Pettway KO1 Lopez McGee
Edward Neblett W10 Harold Williams
Kevin Watts W10 Steve Darnell
Davey Moore W10 Cecil Pettigrew
Matt Farrago W10 Donald Johnson
Iran Barkley W10 Jorge Amparo
Donald Curry DQ5 Carlos Santos
Michael Nunn TKO9 Charles Campbell

WELTERWEIGHTS
Harold Brazier TKO7 Jim Baker

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Pernell Whitaker W12 Roger Mayweather
(Won NABF Title)
Frankie Randall TKO5 Shelton LeBlanc
John Duplessis TKO6 Nelson Bolanos
(Won Continental Americas Title)
Boyd Trahan W10 Lamont Buchanan
Noce Lukman W10 Lule Villaverde
Terrence Alli TKO8 Jeff Bumpus

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Jimmy Navarro KO1 Alberto Gonzales
Eusebio Espinal TKO6 Luis Ramos

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Takuyama Muguruma TKO5 Azael Moran
(Won vacant WBA Title)
Kaosai Galaxy TKO14 Elly Pical
(Won WBA Jr. Bantamweight Title)
Gilberto Roman W12 Frank Cedeno
(Retained WBC Super Flyweight Title)
Kelvin Seabrooks W12 Louis Curtis
(Won vacant USBA Title)

FLYWEIGHTS
Myung-Woo Yuh KO1 Eduardo Tunon
(Won WBA Jr. Flyweight Title)
Wayne Mulholland KO6 Shane Fooks
Chom-Hwan Choi W15 Tacy Macalos
(Retained IBF Jr. Flyweight Title)
Roland Gomez TKO7 Tim Silva
Thanomsak Sithbaobay W12 Soon-Jung Kang

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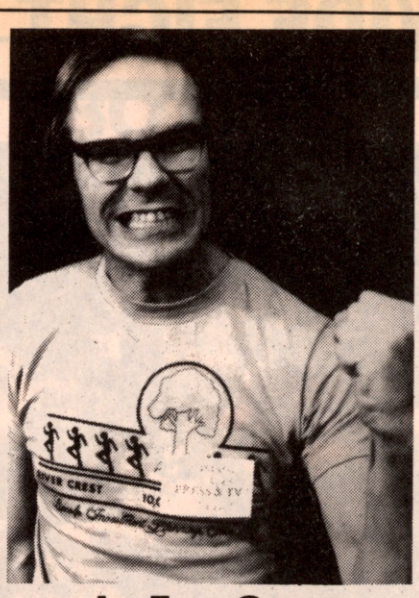

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VETERAN BOXERS BEAT

by CHARLIE SPINA

THIS MONTH WE SALUTE JACKIE "KID" Berg, the Whitechapel Whirlwind. Born June 28, 1909 in London, England, Berg's real name was Judah Bergman. He began boxing at the age of 15 and in no time was fighting 15-rounders against the likes of Young Clancey, Billy Streets, Johnny Cuthbert, Harry Corbett, Mick Hill and Phil Bond.

In 1928, managers Sol Gold and Frankie Jacobs brought Berg to the United States where he made his American debut by beating Pedro Amador over 10 rounds in Chicago. Berg's style featured a furious attack, great stamina and an abundance of courage. He quickly captured the hearts of the American fans and gained undying fame in this country as well as back home in England.

Despite the fact that he could neither box nor punch particularly well, Berg managed to beat three members of *The Ring's* Boxing Hall of Fame—Tony Canzoneri, Billy Petrolle and Kid Chocolate. After losing a rematch to Petrolle in August of '28, Berg won his next 32 bouts.

Berg won the world junior welterweight title by knocking out Mushy Callahan in 10 rounds, February 18, 1930 in London. He made nine successful defenses before dropping down to lightweight to challenge Canzoneri for the 135-pound crown. Canzoneri stopped him in three, but Jackie continued to claim the junior welterweight title until he was outpointed by Sammy Fuller over 12 rounds in New York City, May 20, 1932.

Berg fought on until 1945 when he retired after stopping Johnny McDonald in five. Overall, this remarkable fighter tallied a pro record of 157-26-9 with 57 knockouts. He was elected to *The Ring's* Boxing Hall of Fame in 1975. He still lives in London and is vice-president of the London Ex-Boxers Association.

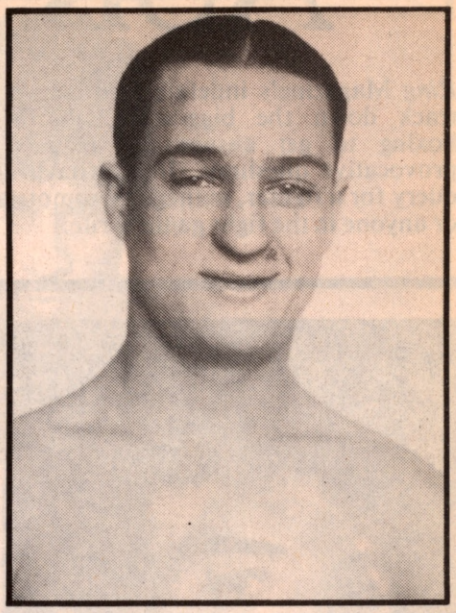
VETERAN BOXERS NOTES:

While in London this past March to judge the Terry Marsh-Joe Manley bout for the

Jackie "Kid" Berg

IBF junior welterweight title, I had a chance to visit the famous Thomas A. Becket. The building houses the newly renovated gym on the top floor and a boxing museum and pub on the ground floor. Hosts Mr. and Mrs. Gary Davidson make one feel right at home. I enjoyed a pint or two and watched old fight films on a giant TV screen. The walls of the pub are loaded with fight pictures along with robes and trunks from many former British champs. The Thomas A. Becket is a must for all fight fans visiting London. The address is 320 Old Kent Road, London SE1 5UE . . . I also met former amateur star Mick Abrams (ABA champ in '71, '72 and '73), who is now a taxi driver. Mick chauffeured me around London and showed me the town. Thanks for everything, Mick . . . The Cauliflower Alley club celebrated its 20th anniversary at the Sportsmen's Lodge Empire Room in Studio City, California. Honorees were: Mike Weaver, George Latka, Harry Warren, Leo Garibaldi, Lou Nova and Lucky Simunovich. Special presentations went to Ted Bolczak and Charles Tuzzolino . . . For those of you who asked for Petey Sarron's address, the former featherweight champion resides at 889 N.E. 159th Street, Miami Beach, Florida 33162 . . . Pat Valentino, former heavyweight

Pete Zivic



contender and California State champ who fought Ezzard Charles, Joe Louis, Turkey Thompson and many others, is now Maitre d' at Scoma's Restaurant on Fisherman's Wharf in San Francisco. Pat and I were shipmates during WWII . . . As many of his fans know, the great Sugar Ray Robinson is very ill with Alzheimers disease. Those of you wishing to send him a "get well" card can mail it to: Ray Robinson c/o TV Fanfare Publications, Inc. 25300 Rye Canyon Road, Valencia, California 91355 . . . Joe Noland, former president and treasurer of Ring 4 Boston, has been confined to Melrose Wakefield Hospital, 585 Lebanon Street, Melrose, Mass. 02176 . . . Frankie Certo the former New Brunswick Buzzsaw, recently underwent gall bladder surgery and is now on the recovery list . . .

THE LAST ROUND:

Steve Smith (Steven Sombati), 85, died January 23, 1987 in Derby, Connecticut. The former New England featherweight champion fought some of the best 126-pounders of his day, including Benny Bass, Billy Petrolle, Eddie Anderson, Lew Massey, Chick Suggs, Tony Canzoneri and Kid Chocolate (six times). Steve was a 32nd degree Mason and at one time served as boxing instructor at the Bridgeport, Connecticut YMCA . . . Andy Martin (Macri), another former featherweight star of the 1920s, also passed away recently . . . Pete Zivic, 85, recently died in Pittsburgh. Pete, one of the "Fighting Zivic Brothers," turned pro in 1920 after representing the US in the Olympics, facing both Abe Attell and Bushy Graham during his career. □

ASK THE STARS

Ring Magazine's indefatigable editors track down the biggest V.I.P.s in boxing to get answers to readers' provocative questions. If you have a query for a fighter, manager, promoter or anyone in the fight game, write:

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FOR RAY "BOOM BOOM" MANCINI
Former WBA lighweight Champion

Q: What is this I read about you making a comeback?
L.F., WASHINGTON,D.C.

A: **I said I'd never come back, but I have one great regret, and that's not fighting (Hector) Camacho. Everywhere I go, people say to me, 'One more, Ray, just one more. Come back and get Camacho, shut his mouth.' I'm definitely listening to any offers.**

FOR MIKE TYSON
WBC and WBA heavyweight champion

Q: I have noticed that you have been getting a bit testy with reporters lately, Is all the media attention starting to bother you?
B.P., ATLANTIC CITY, NJ

A: **No, but I've had nights where people nag you, nag you, nag you. I'm 20 years old. And they're talking, talking. Give you no privacy. I'm a very private person.**

FOR LARRY HAZZARD
New Jersey's Boxing Commissioner

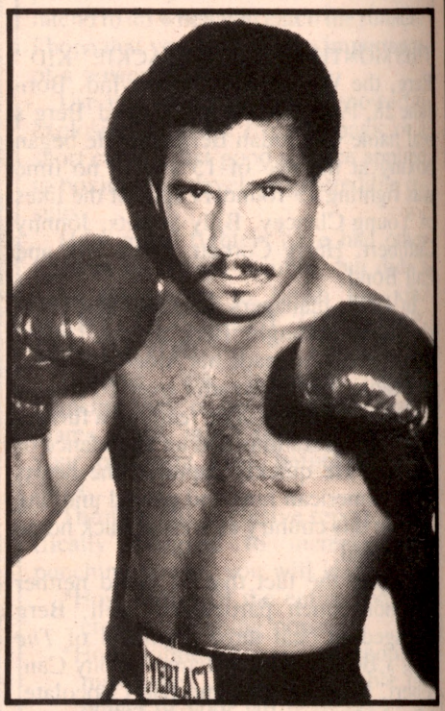
Q: I read that you are going to let Gerry Cooney fight Michael Spinks in New Jersey. How can you sanction such a match? Cooney should earn his title shot.
K.M., NEW YORK CITY

A: **We (the New Jersey Athletic Commission) don't *sanction* fights. We only approve fights. We are a regulatory body. We enforce regulations. But we are, by law, not a sanctioning body. In our state law, it specifically states I cannot even be a member of a sanctioning body—of the IBF, WBA or WBC.**

FOR BUTCH LEWIS
Michael Spinks's promoter

Q: Why didn't you let Michael Spinks fight Tony Tucker and keep the IBF title?
A.I., DETROIT, MICH.

A: **We're not thumbing our noses at Tony Tucker, we're just looking to make some money. Tucker brings no money to the table.**



FOR EDWIN ROSARIO
WBA lightweight champion

Q: It looks like Hector Camacho has no intention of giving you a rematch. Any comment?
J.R.M., SAN JUAN, P.R.

A: **Camacho is no longer the "Macho Man." He is the man on the bicycle.**

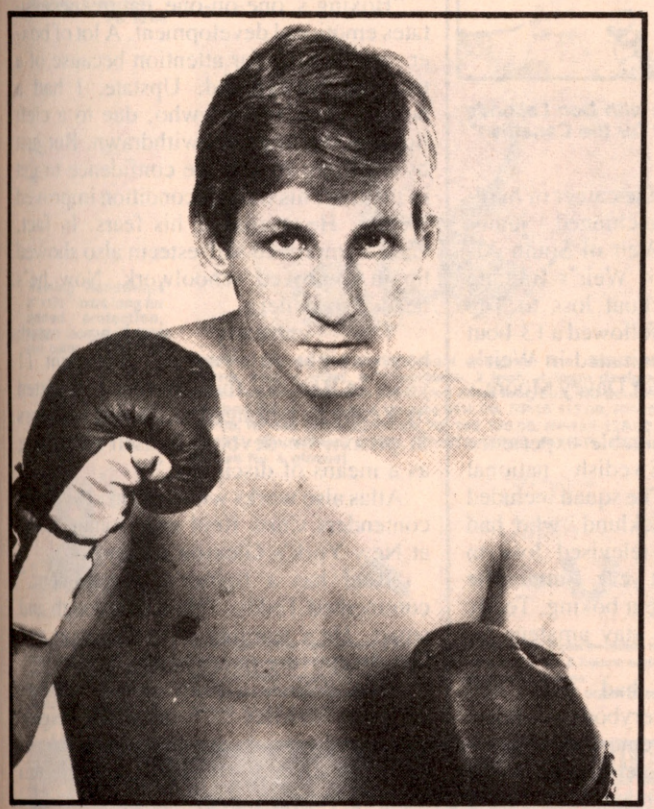
FOR IRAN BARKLEY
Middleweight contender

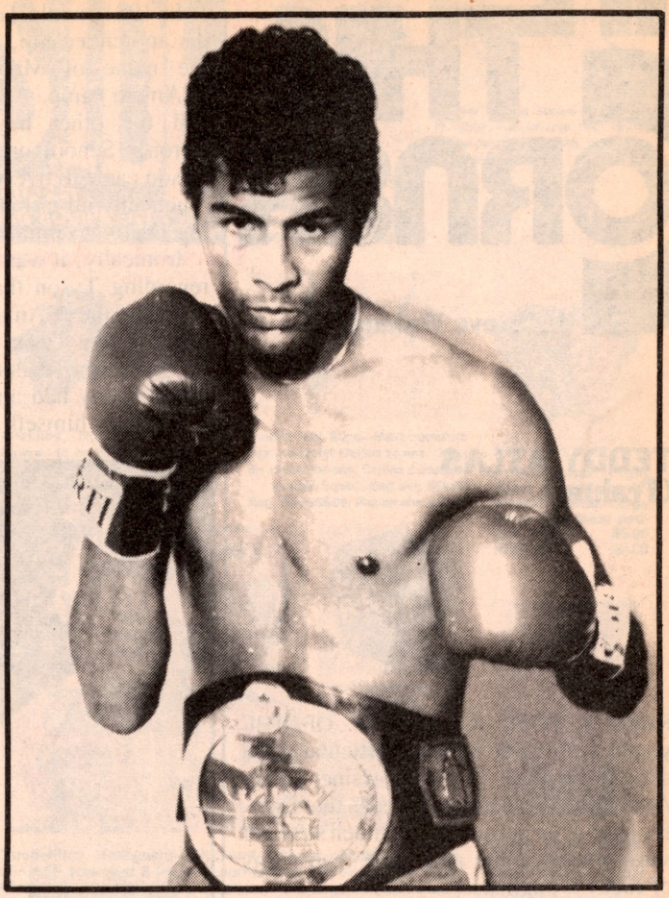
Q: I think you are the most exciting thing to happen to the middleweight division since Marvin Hagler. How do you manage to maintain such an incredible punch-rate?
H.R., BRONX, NY

A: **What separates me from other fighters is true madness. When I get heated up in there, I get my strength. None of that pitty-pat stuff, every punch has to have power.**

TARMO UUSIVIRTA SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHT

OKAY FANS, CAN YOU NAME THE LAST BOXING STAR TO hail from that fistic hotbed of Finland? No, I didn't think you could because the last Finn to make any kind of impact on the international scene was Gunnar Barlund, the hard-punching heavyweight who lost to Lou Nova back in 1945. Recently, however, the Finns have found a new hero in Tarmo Uusivirta . . . But Uusivirta has a problem. Despite boxing a draw with European light heavyweight champion Alex Blanchard, he is really only a super middleweight and the EBU doesn't recognize the 168-pound division. So far, Uusivirta has been forced to accept heavier opponents in order to keep busy. The disadvantage of this was obvious when Tarmo gave away over 10 pounds to Belgian Jose Seys and was stopped in five rounds. He has also been unable to get a return match with Blanchard . . . Uusivirta's manager, Olof Johansson, feels that because Tarmo comes from a small—and, in boxing, unimportant country, he is being overlooked by the various governing bodies. He also claims the unofficial European super middleweight crown for his charge . . . The Blanchard draw is not the only important entry in Uusivirta's pro log. He outpointed former European champion Jimmy Cable in '86 and was very unlucky to receive only a draw against Swiss/Italian Enrico Scacchia in a bout that saw Scaccia down twice in the seventh round . . . At 29, time is rapidly running out for Uusivirta. Angered by the treatment Uusivirta has received from the EBU, manager Johansson feels that the best bet for Tarmo is to challenge IBF super middleweight boss Chong-Pal Park . . . Now, that would really be one for the trivia buffs—the first world championship pitting a Finn against a Korean. □





TONY PEP FEATHERWEIGHT

DESPITE THE RECENT DOWNFALL OF WILLIE DE WIT and Sean O'Sullivan, Canada still has some quality fighters anxious for recognition. One of the best is Canadian featherweight champion Tony "Kid" Pep . . . A product of the Tony Dowling stable in Vancouver, Pep has tallied a 16-2 (eight KOs) record since turning pro in June of 1982 following a brief, 12-bout amateur career. Both of Pep's losses were on the road against lightweights. He dropped 10-round decisions to Darryl Savoy in Las Vegas and Tony Miller in Australia. The loss to Miller (who was hospitalized after the fight) was deplorable and booed by Miller's local fans . . . The 6-foot-1 Pep won the Canadian 126-pound belt with a 12-round decision over Ned Simmons in April of '85. He has also scored solid wins over Carlton Sparrow (W12), Ian Clyde (KO10), Lorenzo Garcia (W10) and Arnel Arrozal (W10) . . . One of the biggest bouts of Pep's budding career was a 10th-round TKO over cross-town rival Dale Waters. Though the match drew a capacity crowd of 3,600 to the Agrodome, Pep is not popular with the Vancouver fans, most of whom were cheering for Waters . . . Because of their lack of appreciation, Vancouver fight buffs may soon be losing another of their best prospects . . . "There was another fighter here by the name of Michael Olajide Jr., and he wasn't treated all that different from me," said Pep. "He left for New York, and now people are sorry he left." Wake up, Vancouver. You never miss the water 'til the well runs dry. □

IN THIS CORNER

by Steve Waldman

TEDDY ATLAS (Trainer)

RARELY DOES A MEMBER OF THE youth movement in any particular field defer to old ideas. However, trainer Teddy Atlas, just 30, readily concedes that fighters from prior decades had a much stronger sense of discipline and pride than many of today's pugilists.

Atlas believes a large portion of boxers' problems begin in the gym. He cites woefully conditioned Tim Witherspoon and Tony Tubbs as prime examples of the general lack of pride exhibited by many of today's prominent boxers.

"When George Foreman sees such 'competitors' vying for the title he once held, his ego demands he should go for another piece of the pie," said Atlas. "Guys like Witherspoon and Tubbs embarrassed Foreman into coming back."

Originally, Atlas wanted to be a pro fighter. Born in Staten Island, he moved "upstate" when he was 18 to train under Cus D'Amato and began boxing in PAL competition in 1972. Cus' acumen and Teddy's heart combined to win the lightweight title in the '76 Adirondack Golden Gloves. But because of chronic back problems, Atlas was forced to abandon the ring and become D'Amato's assistant trainer.

Atlas left D'Amato's camp for awhile and spent an admittedly aimless year in New York City. Soon realizing he could better further his career as a trainer by returning to work under D'Amato, he went back to the Catskill Mountains and the man who had taken both Floyd Patterson and Jose Torres to world championships.

In 1981, while Teddy was still serving his apprenticeship, a 13-year-old boy by the name of Mike Tyson joined the D'Amato camp. Atlas worked with Mike and the other boys from the nearby Tyron's School on Friday nights. After Tyson came to live with Cus, Teddy spent practically all of his time with him, helping D'Amato mold the future champion.

Ironically, it was a disciplinary dispute regarding Tyson that precipitated Atlas' exit from the D'Amato fold. Atlas felt Cus was babying Tyson and decided it would be best to move along. However, by that time, Teddy had already begun to make a name for himself.

Teddy Atlas (right) poses with Don LaLonde following another victory for the Canadian light heavyweight.

Atlas helped salvage the career of hard-hitting, albeit fragile-chinned junior middleweight Charlie Weir of South Africa. He took charge of Weir's training after a disastrous knockout loss to Tap Tap Makhathini. There followed a 13-bout winning streak that culminated in Weir's unsuccessful challenge for Davey Moore's WBA 154-pound title.

Atlas also gained valuable experience working with the Swedish national amateur team in 1980. The squad included heavyweight Anders Ecklund, who had impressed Atlas in a televised loss to Jimmy Clark earlier that year. But despite his affiliation with amateur boxing, Teddy feels that many boxers stay amateur far too long.

"Johnny Bumphus had over 400 amateur fights and everybody wonders where his legs went," remarked Atlas.

According to Atlas, determination is the key to success in any endeavor.

"Even if there is talent, unless a guy had it within himself to stay at something long enough to bring it out, he won't succeed," said Atlas. "Boxing provides a lot of tests for both spirit and body. There are plenty of guys who don't make it because they lack emotional control. And there are others who overachieve because they have the discipline needed to succeed as a professional. A professional is someone who does what is necessary under all circumstances, no matter how desperate those circumstances. A real pro is able to block out all distractions."

Atlas believes this lack of temperance relates to society in general.

"The lack of discipline in the home carries over into sports. There is less pride and commitment, little concern for public presentation," opined Atlas. "In the home, children are being provided with less direction, traditional values are crumbling.

"Older athletes weren't spoiled. Joe DiMaggio wouldn't hold out. Fighters are rushed into TV fights. Undefeated records are padded at the expense of inadequate opponents. Today, fighters tend to behave without thinking of the future. Society is more lenient. If Joe Frazier had been caught smoking pot in his heyday, it would at least have hurt his public standing."

Atlas also has some positive things to say about boxing.

"Boxing's one-on-one nature necessitates emotional development. A lot of boxers are looking for attention because of a troubled background. Upstate, I had a boxer, Gary Young, who, due to a cleft lip, was shy and very withdrawn. But just by instilling in him the confidence to get in the ring, his overall condition improved greatly. He overcame his fears. In fact, Gary's improved self-esteem also showed up in improved schoolwork. Now he's headed to college.

"I'm currently working with heavyweight Art Tucker, who spent 11 years in Rahway for a murder committed by a gang he belonged to. During his years in prison, he devoted himself to boxing as a means of discipline."

Atlas also works with light heavyweight contenders Chris Reid and Donnie Long at New York's Gleason's Gym.

"Reid has a fighter's temperament," commented Teddy. "He's both tough and smart. He's learning to ignore pain and has deceptively quick hands."

Atlas defines a professional, whether surgeon, attorney . . . or middleweight, as one who is always ready and able to do his best. Teddy should know. He too is a pro. □

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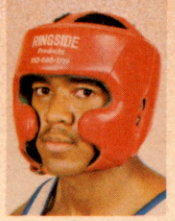

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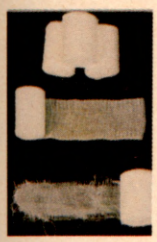

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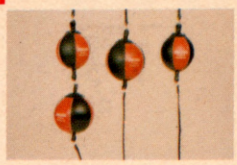

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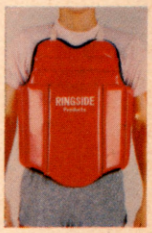

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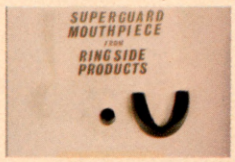

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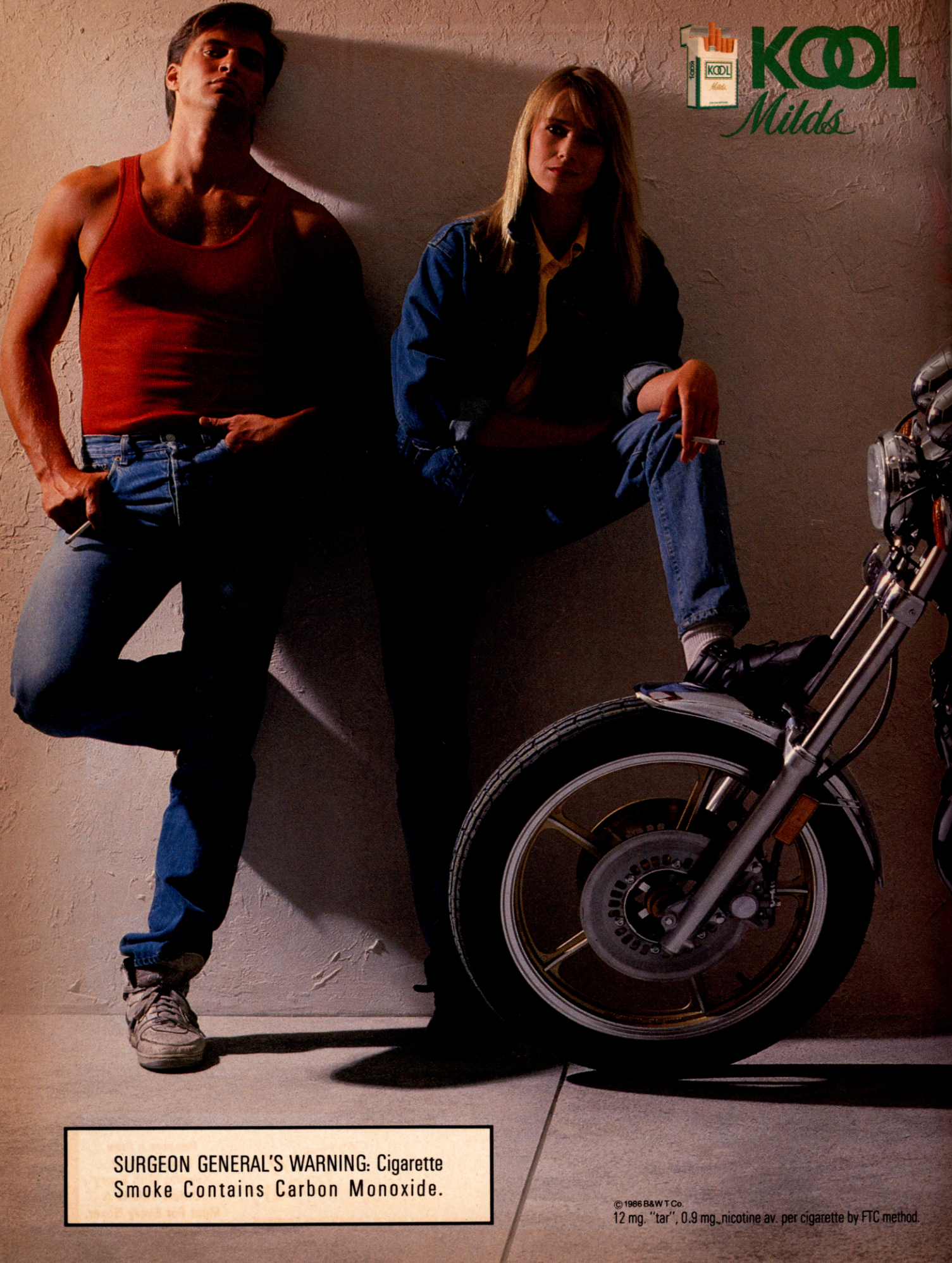
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